



Audubon Society of Corvallis the **CHAT**

January 2013

VOL. 42

#5

General Meeting

Thursday, January 17, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
First Presbyterian Church
8th and Monroe

Klamath Basin Presentation: Refuges, Wildlife and Marsh Restoration

Wendell Wood, *Wildlands Interpreter for Oregon Wild*



Wendell Wood, Wildlands Interpreter for Oregon Wild, will talk about wildlife and conservation opportunities in the Klamath Basin of southern Oregon and northern California. Spanning 10.5 million acres in total, the upper Klamath



Basin is the heart of the Pacific Flyway. Wendell will discuss individual bird species as well as water issues and marsh restoration opportunities, including a recent 9,900-acre addition to southern

Oregon's Upper Klamath National Wildlife Refuge (nearly doubling this refuge in size). The marshes of this newest addition to UKNWR were drained and managed as a cattle ranch before 1993, and since then have been used by the Bureau of Reclamation for commercial irrigation water storage. Additionally, the Klamath Basin NWRs are

now developing their "Comprehensive Conservation Plans," and (in 2013) are seeking public input on how this newest Upper Klamath refuge addition and other Klamath



Basin refuges are to be managed. Oregon Wild continues to emphasize that adequate water supplies be provided to both Tule Lake and Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuges, which have suffered severe water shortages in recent years.

Wendell Wood first began exploring the Pacific NW's marshes, roadless areas, and other natural areas as part of his coursework at Humboldt State University, where he graduated in 1973 with degrees in Biology and Wildlife Management. First employed as a high school biology teacher in southern Oregon, Wendell has worked as a wildlands advocate and naturalist for Oregon Wild (formerly the Oregon Natural Resources Council; www.oregonwild.org) since 1981. In addition to his Klamath Basin conservation advocacy, he has long championed wilderness and old growth forest protection, and is the author of "a Walking

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Guide to Oregon Ancient Forests". Wendell has spent most of his adult life familiarizing himself with the Pacific Northwest's flora and fauna, and regularly leads natural history outings for Oregon Wild, Siskiyou Field Institute, and others. Wendell, who continues to mostly "straddle" the California/Oregon border, lived full time in the upper Klamath Basin from 1993 to 2000, but now primarily resides (closer to the lower end of the Klamath River) in Del Norte Co., CA.

Doors open at 6:30 pm for refreshments and visiting. The chapter meeting commences at 7:00 pm, followed by the guest lecture at 7:30 pm. Questions about the series can be directed to Dave Mellinger at David.Mellinger@oregonstate.edu or 541-757-7953.

Directions

The monthly chapter meeting is in Dennis Hall of the First Presbyterian Church, 114 SW Eighth Street.

Dave Mellinger

Field Trip Schedule

Local Monthly Second Saturday Field Trips

Our Saturday morning local field trip meets the second Saturday of every month at the Benton Center parking area, behind the Cannery Mall, Corvallis at 7:30 am. This field trip is especially interesting for beginner birders and birders new to Oregon's mid-valley area. We focus on identifying local birds by sight and song while enjoying the outdoors. We visit the valley national wildlife refuges—Finley, Baskett Slough, and Ankeny, as well as other birding areas throughout the year. Contact Bill Proebsting at proebstw@gmail.com or 541-752-0108 with questions. Check the Midvalley ListServ, www.midvalleybirding.org/pipermail/birding/, the week before the field trip for updates. Weather may alter plans. Watch the weather forecast and dress appropriately.

Half Day Field Trips

January 12: Baskett Slough NWR and Livermore Rd.
February 9: Snagboat Bend

Bill Proebsting

South Coast Field Trip

March 29-31, 2013

ASC's weekend field trip schedule begins with a trip down the coast to Bandon and Port Orford. The first wave of migrants arrive in early March and the manzanitas are in bloom, so we have a decent chance of finding Allen's Hummingbird in addition to target species: Red-shouldered Hawk, White-tailed Kite, Wrentit, Snowy Plover, and Black Phoebe. The shorebird migration will come later, so we will content ourselves with sorting through sea ducks, gulls... a previous trip had one small group



Snowy Plover



Glaucous Gull

containing an amazing eight gull species... and whatever winter rarities are still hanging around.

Friday stops include Kirk Lake (Fern Ridge), Drain (!), the Reedsport elk-viewing area, Winchester Harbor, and the Coquille River valley. Saturday

we explore Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, Bullard's Beach State Park, and both the north and south jetties of the Coquille River before heading south to New River and Port Orford. The return Sunday includes Cape Arago and Simpson's Reef, Charleston harbor, Siltcoos Creek's mouth, and the south jetty of Florence's Siuslaw River.



Red-shouldered Hawk

Transportation is in rental vans with everyone guaranteed a window seat. Accommodation is at the comfortable Lamplighter Motel in Bandon both nights. Restaurant meals in Bandon feature the delights of Oregon's ocean fish and shellfish. Breakfasts highlight the area's abundant cranberry harvest.

Interested persons can sign up at ASC's general meeting or contact Fred Ramsey at framsey5@comcast.net or 541-753-3677. Maximum group size is sixteen.

Later Trips

Klamath Basin—April 19-21

Rogue River Valley—May 3-5 (including Oregon Shakespeare Festival performance of *My Fair Lady*)

Malheur National Wildlife Refuge—May 23-26

Summer and Crater Lakes—June 28-30

Wallowas—July 11-14

Steens Mountain—August (date to be specified; maximum of eight persons)

Return to South Coast—September 6-8

Fred Ramsey

President's Corner

2013—Welcome to the New Audubon Year

Along with the change in the calendar and turn of the season, the New Year at Audubon brings fresh perspectives, new issues and challenges, and many of us watching for the first returns of our favorite migrant birds.

The Board of Directors recently decided to become an institutional member of the Great Basin Society, which supports the operation of the Malheur Field Station. This support allows the Field Station to maintain and enhance on-site high desert education opportunities to visiting public through its member organizations and universities, adjacent to the jewel of Oregon—Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

The Board is happy to welcome two new Directors, both OSU undergraduates and leaders of a new student group on campus, The OSU Bird Nerds. ShyAnne Woods was elected to fill our vacant Board member-at-large position, and Juliana Masseloux will be transitioning into Chair of our Outreach/Publicity committee this April, after a winter term studying abroad in Chile. We can all look forward to their contributions, and a long-missed collaboration with OSU activities.

2013 will also usher in more challenges to local wildlife species, two imperiled native prairie species are now proposed for listing by the US Fish and Wildlife Service: Streaked Horned Lark and Taylor's Checkerspot. Climate change and continued human encroachments on native habitats still bring diversity declines in wetland and upland meadows, as well as native forests and woodlands of all types and conditions.

I often am asked of the scale of specific threats to birds, and what might be done about them. Windows, windmills and transmission lines, outdoor cats, and night-time lighting all take a significant toll each year, particularly on migratory species. Predatory birds are especially susceptible to toxins that bioaccumulate in their food chain, like lead-based ammunition. There are things we can do to decrease these threats to birds, from using window stickers and keeping cats indoors to encouraging use of only non-toxic ammunition. The Conservation Committee is considering sponsoring a series of special presentations to best address the scale of these threats, and to present alternatives. By bringing in experts and researchers in each area, we hope to provide answers of what we all can do to lessen threats to birds and other wildlife.

Once again, thank you one and all for your continued support of our all-volunteer organization. None of our work would be possible without your help!

Jim Fairchild, President

Corvallis CBC Summary

This year, a snowy landscape greeted our bird counters at dawn on December 18, 2012. Although it snowed off and on most of the day, the temperature remained a bit above freezing. By the end of the day, counters had found 128 species. While not as high as last year's record-setting 130

species, this was still a remarkably good total considering the weather.

Turkey Vulture (second ever for this count), and Mountain Chickadee (4th time) were pleasant surprises. Other good birds included Redhead, Eared Grebe, Western Gull, Barred Owl, Orange-crowned Warbler and Lapland Longspur. Our worst miss was Dunlin, seen on 46 out of 50 previous counts. Ring-necked Pheasant proved elusive for the second straight year and it seems that this introduced species may no longer be considered a regular resident of this area. As I do not have completed tallies from all participants, a complete report of this count will be in next month's Chat.

I'd like to thank everyone who helped out with the count. Special thanks go to Gail Nickerson who prepared the chili and provided drinks and spare dishes and utensils for the countdown potluck.

Marcia F. Cutler

Atop the Nestbox

In the Spring 2012 issue of the Prescott Bluebird Recovery Project newsletter, the oldest Western Bluebird of the Willamette Valley was reported. He was found dead at Champoeg State Park in the winter of 2011-2012. He had lived 9½ years. The PBRP has been banding bluebirds for many years. To our knowledge, they only use a single metal numbered band per bird, therefore, the most effective way for them to record the identity of a live bird is to trap it and read the band numbers. They typically do this using a mist net near the nest box during the breeding season. Because of the expertise and certifications required to operate a mist net, this method restricts the frequency and geographic reach with which trail operators can obtain band data. In 2009, I asked the president of PBRP if they would be interested in collaborating with us on a study of the longevity of the WEBL in the Willamette Valley. They declined for logistical reasons at the time, but I continue to hope that the presence of a statistician in their ranks and many years' data will prove useful in helping to answer this important question.

Because we place colored plastic bands on our nestlings, it is easier for us to glean information from random sightings, particularly if we have interested citizens who are willing to use optical equipment and take a moment to report to us what they have seen. In order to have a meaningful study, we need your help. Please contact me at 541-258-6625 or gordin@centurytel.net with information on any banded bluebirds you see, particularly during the months of March through July. Happy New Year!

Raylene Gordin

Conservation Corner

Greetings, and well wishes for a happy new year! In looking back at the year past, we recognize it was a tough one for those of us who love the Earth and want to keep her in good health. But now is the time for moving forward with hope and determination for a better year, and optimism for achievement of goals that will improve our lives, and all life on Earth.

For those with that determination set, and with goals already in mind, I congratulate you and thank you for your commitment to the environment, and your willingness to stand up for its protection. For those looking for inspiration, I suggest reviewing the lives and work of some of our most prominent conservationists. Here are a few of their names; please notice they attacked the problem in many different ways: Edward Abbey, writer; Ansel Adams, photographer; Tom Brown, wilderness instructor; Archie Carr, sea turtle advocate; Rachel Carson, biologist; William O. Douglas, writer/advocate; Sylvia Earle, marine biologist, Dian Fossey/Jane Goodall, primate research; John Muir, adventurer; and Olaus and Mardy Murie, a husband/wife team who explored, studied, and wrote about nature, encouraging others to do the same.

There are many challenges we face in today's rapidly changing world. Humans, more than any other force on the Earth, have the capacity to alter systems that have been in place for millions of years, and those changes will not be to our benefit. If you are interested in maintaining a healthy Earth, with its positive support systems, you must not be overwhelmed by the enormity of the problem. A reasonable course is to do what those famous people above did; they focused their energy on one area where they had interests and passion, shared it with others, and spoke out for what they cared about.

I know that you care for your environment. Audubon does what it can, by promoting nature education, restoring habitat, protecting and providing nesting habitat for birds, and supporting legislation that will help flora and fauna. Thank you for all you do to promote similar goals. Without letting others know how you feel, the message is left unsaid.

*Happy New Year—Will Wright
Conservation Chair*

Field Notes

11/24/12-12/27/12

The general area covered by the field notes is a rough circle centered on Corvallis, extending to around Sweet Home, Monroe/Harrisburg, Marys Peak and the nearby Coast Range, and Monmouth/Dallas.

Relatively mild, cloudy and wet weather characterized the period. Almost all shorebirds were gone, but the full complement of wintering waterfowl, raptors and wintering songbirds were in place. The Corvallis Christmas Bird Count on December 18 was quite successful, despite snow

showers throughout the day.

Location abbreviations: Ankeny = Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge, EEW = E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area, Finley = William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge, MRNA = Marys River Natural Area in Corvallis, Philomath STP = Philomath sewage treatment ponds, Stewart Lake = lake at Hewlett-Packard campus in Corvallis

Observer abbreviations: Paul Adamus (PA), Susan Atkisson (SA), Doug Bilsland (DBi), Don Boucher (DB), Tim Blount (TB), Bob Burke (BB), Randy Campbell (RCa), Pam Comeleo (PCo), Randy Comeleo (RCo), Marcia F. Cutler (MFC), Preston Filbert (PF), Jeff Fleischer (JF), Joel Geier (JG), Julie Gibson (JGb), Don Alan Hall (DAH), Tyler Hallman (TH), Oscar Harper (OH), Jeff Harding (JH), Susie Hatlevig (SH), Hendrik Herlyn (HH), Frank Kolwicz (FK), Stephen Lindsay (SL), Judy List (JL), Peter List (PL), Lisa Millbank (LM), Molly Monroe (MM), Nancy Neary (NN), Pam Otley (PO), Judith L. Paul (JLP), James Philipson (JP), Bill Proebsting (BP), Paul Rentz (PR), Doug Robinson (DR), Steve Seibel (SS), John Shewey (JSh), Jamie Simmons (JS), Pat Smythe (PS), Brandon Wagner (BW), Will Wright (WW)

Editor's notes: From now on, the falcons will be placed in their new taxonomic position right after the woodpeckers. Recently, Will Wright's name was inadvertently omitted from the list of observers; I regret the error.

A Mallard-sized immature *Anser sp.* goose at Finley 11/24 proved difficult to identify; its companion was an adult **Greater White-fronted Goose** (DR); about a dozen Greater White-fronts flew over EEW 12/7 (JG). A **Ross's Goose** was found among **Cackling Geese** NE of Finley 12/19 (MM). Dusky and Taverner's **Canada Geese** were grazing at Finley 12/2 (WW). A small flock of **Trumpeter Swans** flew over Ankeny 11/25 (TB), and about 100 **Tundra Swans** were E of Finley near Bundy Rd (JL, PL). **Gadwall** were reported from Finley 12/4 (SL) and Cheadle Lake near Lebanon 12/10 (SA). **Eurasian Wigeons** were well-distributed and were reported from **American Wigeon** flocks all over the area. About 1200 **Northern Shovelers** were at Philomath STP 12/8 (HH), the highest count reported this period. A photo of a **Northern Pintail** at Finley 10/6 revealed that he was flying upside down, he was probably performing a maneuver called "whiffing" that helps birds decelerate and lose altitude quickly (PR). A male of the Eurasian subspecies of **Green-winged Teal**, also called the "Common Teal," turned up at Finley 12/12 (DR), and another (possibly the same one) was at Philomath STP 12/18 (JP). Impressive numbers of **Canvasbacks** were hanging out at Philomath STP this period, with a high of 67 on 12/20 (DR), and there were still 5 **Redheads** there as of 12/12 (DR). 6 **Ring-necked Ducks** were on the wetlands N of Summit along Marys River Rd (JGb). The highest number of **Lesser Scaup** was 120 at Philomath STP 12/8

(HH), and 2 **Greater Scaup** were at Stewart Lake 12/25 (PO). 1 **Surf Scoter** continued at Philomath STP 12/2 (WW), but that was the last report. 135 **Buffleheads** were at the Philomath STP 12/8 (HH). 1 **Common Goldeneye** was at Cabell Marsh at Finley 11/25 (SH). 8 female **Hooded Mergansers** were on the pond near the Finley HQ 12/19, and 3 pairs were on Cronemiller Lake in McDonald Forest 12/27 (JGb). 14 **Common Mergansers** were at Stewart Lk. 11/25 (PO). There were 405 **Ruddy Ducks** at Philomath STP 12/8 (HH).

8 **Wild Turkeys** enjoyed free food from the bird feeders, and busily pecked at their reflections on a door at Finley HQ this period. 2-10 **California Quail** visited a feeder on Barley Hill in SW Corvallis this period (NN).

A **Western Grebe** was at Philomath STP 12/15 (DR), the only one reported this period. A **Pied-billed Grebe** was on Cronemiller Lake in McDonald Forest 12/27 (JGb).

A **Brown Pelican** flying over Corvallis 12/4 was an unexpected sight (PS), but not entirely unheard of as one was reported around Peoria in 2005. One **American White Pelican** was at Finley 11/24 (TH). Plenty of **Double-crested Cormorants** were found in wetlands and rivers across the area.

Great Blue Herons and **Great Egrets** were often seen snapping up voles in fields; 32 egrets were in a field near Dawson Rd and Hwy 99W 12/15 (WW).

One hardy **Turkey Vulture** soared over EEW 12/16, the only report this period (JG). A **White-tailed Kite** was seen at the Finley prairie 12/14 (PR) and 12/27 (HH, OH, JS). 47 **Bald Eagles** used their traditional roost W of Tangent 12/19 (JF). On a raptor survey of S Benton Co, 11 **Northern Harriers** were counted 11/25 (WW), and 2 **Cooper's Hawks** turned up on the same survey. An adult **Northern Goshawk** dove into the woods in N Corvallis 12/13 (PA). 2 **Red-shouldered Hawks** were at the scout lodge E of Philomath 12/24 (JF). 30 **Red-tailed Hawks** were found on a Linn Co raptor survey route 12/9 (JH, BB), including a couple of very dark ones. **Rough-legged Hawks** were reported from suitable habitat all over our area, but the easiest site to observe them is probably Bruce Rd. at Finley. A juvenile **Golden Eagle** was seen on McFarland Rd 11/26 (PL, JL), and an adult or older subadult hunted over McFadden Marsh at Finley 12/14 (SS).

60 **American Coots** were at Philomath STP 12/8 (HH).

Shorebirds were almost gone except for abundant **Killdeer** in fields, scattered **Wilson's Snipe**, and a single **Dunlin** found at Philomath STP 12/2 (WW). A single **Red Phalarope** may have been blown off-course during a storm, and ended up at Philomath STP 12/17 (DR).

A gull flock off Hwy 20 near Oakville Rd 12/15 contained **Mew**, **Ring-billed**, **Herring** and **Glaucous-winged Gulls** (DR). The Coffin Butte landfill attracted an adult **Thayer's Gull**, a **California Gull**, and a few **Glaucous-winged x Western Gull** hybrids 11/30 (JG). Waverly Lake attracted a roosting flock of at least 500 unidentified gulls 12/22 (JG).

A flock of 180-190 **Mourning Doves** were feeding on the ground at EEW 12/12 (JG). A dozen **Eurasian Collared-Doves** were in downtown residential Albany 12/3 (DB).

A **Barn Owl** perched on a fence post at a residence in Independence 12/8 (BW). Duets between male and female **Great Horned Owls** could be heard all over the area as these owls approach their nesting season. 2 **Northern Pygmy-Owls** called near Fitton Green 12/9 (PCo, RCo). A **Short-eared Owl** was hunting the open fields along Bruce Rd in the late afternoon of 12/27 (HH, OH, JS).

A yard in Independence was filled with about a dozen **Anna's Hummingbirds** throughout the period (BW).

One **Lewis's Woodpecker** was spotted at Finley 12/27 (DBi, HH, OH, JS). The famous **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** of EEW had returned to his usual hangout by 12/8; it's the fourth winter he's shown up (JG). A female **Hairy Woodpecker** allowed a close approach 12/27 (HH, OH, JS). A **Northern Flicker** snacked on a fallen Asian pear in Monmouth 12/7 (FK).

A Linn Co raptor survey tallied 45 **American Kestrels** 12/9 (BB, JH), and a S Benton Co route had 44 11/25 (WW). **Merlins** were frequently sighted in urban areas around large flocks of finches, starlings and robins. A **Gyr Falcon** turned up on Granger Ave near Lewisburg 12/2 (JF), but it wasn't reported again. **Peregrine Falcons** were very regular at Philomath STP and Finley, but 2 were also found on a S Benton Co raptor survey route 11/25 (WW). A single **Prairie Falcon** showed up on a Linn Co raptor survey route 12/9 (BB, JH).

Black Phoebes turned up at many expected locations near wetlands, but one investigated a back porch in Independence 12/11 (BW).

3 **Northern Shrikes** were at Finley 12/4 (SL), and 1 was there 12/8 (PR). Several **Hutton's Vireos** joined a mixed flock at the Oak Lawn cemetery 12/13 (LM).

A **Gray Jay** was at Lewisburg Saddle/Sulphur Springs Rd 12/27 (DBi), a reliable place to see them. 70 **Western Scrub-Jays** and 373 **American Crows** were counted in

E Philomath & SW Corvallis for the Corvallis Christmas Bird Count (CBC) 12/18 (DB, LM). **Steller's Jays** harassed a Merlin in mid-December in the Highland Dell area of Corvallis (JLP).

411 **Black-capped Chickadees** and 180 **Bushtits** were counted in E Philomath & SW Corvallis for the Corvallis CBC 12/18 (DB, LM). A **Mountain Chickadee** was a nice surprise in Peoria during the Corvallis CBC 12/18 (RCa).

22 **Bewick's Wrens** were counted in E Philomath & SW Corvallis for the Corvallis CBC 12/18 (DB, LM). A few **Marsh Wrens** lingered at MRNA 12/13 (LM).

365 **Golden-crowned Kinglets** and 24 **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were counted in E Philomath & SW Corvallis for the Corvallis CBC 12/18 (DB, LM).

14 **Western Bluebirds** were on Bald Top at Finley 12/27 (HH, OH, JS). A couple of **Hermit Thrushes** were at EEW 11/26 (JG). 1,652 **American Robins** and 42 **Varied Thrushes** were counted in E Philomath & SW Corvallis for the Corvallis CBC 12/18 (DB, LM), most of whom were gobbling hawthorn berries and fruits of ornamental trees and shrubs. A pair of **Wrentits** were found at EEW 11/26 (JG).

Large flocks of **American Pipits** could be heard flying over open agricultural fields throughout the period. Enormous flocks of **Cedar Waxwings** still lingered last period, but by the beginning of this one, they had dwindled to only a few scattered flocks and individuals.

One yard in Albany had a **Yellow-rumped**, a **Townsend's**, and an uncommon, overwintering **Orange-crowned Warbler** on feeders simultaneously 12/25 (PF); 71 Townsend's Warblers were counted in E Philomath & SW Corvallis for the Corvallis CBC 12/18 (DB, LM). A single **Common Yellowthroat** lingered at Ankeny 11/26 (JSh).

A likely **Clay-colored Sparrow** was found in residential Albany 11/29 and again 12/4 (DB). 5 **Savannah Sparrows** were at Philomath STP 12/8 (HH); quite a few overwinter in the margins of fields and other grassy areas. Dozens of **Lincoln's Sparrows** were found in flooded grass, cattails and brush at MRNA 12/13 (LM). A bright rufous **Fox Sparrow** visited a Corvallis yard 11/25 (BP), it may have been of the "Slate-colored" or "Red" forms we don't usually get in winter. There was a **Swamp Sparrow** at Turtle Flats at Finley 11/27 (BP), and one was found there 12/27 (HH, OH, JS). 30 or more **White-throated Sparrows** were found at EEW this period, a surprising number of this less-common sparrow (JG, DR). 147 **White-crowned** and 213 **Golden-crowned Sparrows** were counted in E Philomath & SW Corvallis for the Corvallis CBC 12/18

(DB, LM). A few "Slate-colored" and/or "Cassiar's" **Dark-eyed Juncos** were reported this period (BW, JG, MFC).

About 25 **Western Meadowlarks** were at EEW 11/24, about 20 were on Gilmore Rd off Independence Hwy 12/2 (JF), and at least 6 were noted on the Campus Way path in Corvallis 11/28 (DAH). 134 **Brewer's Blackbirds** was a good total for the E Philomath & SW Corvallis sector of the Corvallis CBC 12/18 (DB, LM).

While numbers of **American Goldfinches** seem to have fallen in the Corvallis area this period, good numbers of urban **Red Crossbills**, **Pine Siskins**, and a few **Evening Grosbeaks** seem to be making up the finch deficit.

Please post your reports to midvalleybirding.org, send them to lisaaves@peak.org, or leave a message at 541-753-7689 by 1/24/13.

- Lisa Millbank

Benton SWCD 2013 Native Plant Sale

Need to replant after a clear cut? Reclaiming a stream? Create a hedgerow? Looking for beautiful low maintenance flowers and shrubs to attract birds and butterflies? Benton Soil and Water Conservation District urges you to check out this wonderful opportunity to purchase 67+ varieties of native conifers, deciduous trees, shrubs, groundcovers, & flowers for prices ranging from \$0.50 – \$4.00. Please visit our webpage—www.bentonswcd.org/projects/treesale/—to view photos, read plant descriptions and uses, or order online. Questions? Call 541-753-7208 for more information. Orders will be accepted until January 31st 2013. Plant pick up is February 16th, 2013.

Alice Fairfield

Book Chat

ASC Logo Tote Bags Are Here

Yes, we have ordered 200 imprinted tote bags for ASC members and their friends. One side of the dark green bags has the ASC chat logo, and the other side is imprinted with the Hesthavn logo. Bags will be available for purchase at our January 17th general meeting at cost as a courtesy to ASC members. These bags are wonderful advertising vehicles for ASC and Hesthavn.

Thanks to John Gaylord and the Conservation Committee for all their work promoting the adoption of reusable tote bags to the Corvallis City Council. It took a lot of hard work for the measure to pass, and we're proud to show our support by using these practical and inexpensive alternatives to single-use plastic bags. Featured book at our January Book and Raffle table will be *Hawks At a Distance: Identification of Migrant Raptors* by Jerry Liguori, forward by Pete Dunne. Hundreds of photographs taken of raptors in flight make this book an exceptionally fine guide to

wintertime birding. Published in 2011 by Princeton University Press, we have copies available for \$18.00. You'll be stunned by the long distance photos that caused Peter Dunne to comment, "... you simply cannot find a better hawk watcher than Liguori or a better field guide to birds of prey in their natural element..." Come to the Book and Raffle table and see for yourself.

Sally Shaw

Nominations for the Homer Campbell Environmental Award 2013

The Homer Campbell ASC Environmental Award, established in 2005, recognizes a local (Linn, Benton, Lincoln & Polk counties) individual or organization that has made significant contributions in the areas of environmental stewardship, awareness, and outreach. Contributions worthy of recognition might include but are not limited to:

- Promotion of environmentally sustainable practices.
- Leadership on local environmental issues.
- Classroom education of environmental stewardship.
- Habitat restoration or preservation.

Both long-standing and short-term but significant contributions will be considered for this award.

A committee from ASC will recommend one of the nominees for approval by the entire Board. The selected awardee will then be recognized at the April ASC General Meeting and presented with an engraved plaque. The awardee's name will also be engraved on a permanent plaque that hangs at Hesthavn.

Nominations should consist of a letter that describes how the actions or activities of the nominee fit the above-described (or related) criteria. Nominations should include contact information for both the nominee and the nominator and will be accepted until January 31st.

Email submissions may be sent to:

Linda Campbell, lcampbell@peak.org

Karan Fairchild, alderspr@peak.org

Dave Mellinger, mellinger@oregonstate.edu

Snail mail submissions should be addressed to:

ASC

ATTN: HC Award Committee

PO Box 148

Corvallis OR 97339

Linda Campbell

Board Meeting Summary ASC December Meeting

1. The Board unanimously voted to name ShyAnne Woods to fill the Member-At-Large position on the Board, vacated by Tom Penpraze, until the next election.

2. Juliana Masseloux was unanimously named Chair of the Outreach/Publicity Committee, effective April 1st, 2013. Juliana, Vice President of OSU's Bird Nerds, will work with Don Boucher who is now the Interim Chair of this committee.
3. After a report from Fred Ramsey, the Board voted to put \$1,000 into the annual budget (General Fund) for annual Institutional Membership in the Great Basin Society, which manages the Malheur Field Station. The motion passed with one abstention. Discussion ensued around ideas to raise this membership fee, which will give ASC groups priority over non-members in reserving space at the field station for our Malheur field trips.
4. The Board unanimously voted to have 600 reusable shopping bags printed with the ASC logo on one side and the Hesthavn logo on the other. An amendment was made and passed to sell them at cost and/or to suggest a donation for them.

Linda Campbell

Open ACS Board Meetings

ASC Board of Directors meetings are open to all ASC members, and the board encourages you to come and see what we do. Our monthly board meeting is on Thursday one week before the General Meeting. See the calendar on the last page of The Chat for meeting location.

Welcome New Members

David & Mary Bucy

Morgan Schneider

James D. Smith

John Westall

ShyAnne Woods

If you have moved or changed your email address, please forward your new contact information to Suzanne Ortiz at ortizsv@gmail.com.

Suzanne Ortiz

Contributors to the Chat

Dave Mellinger, Bill Proebsting, Fred Ramsey, Jim Fairchild, Marcia F. Cutler, Raylene Gordin, Will Wright, Alice Fairfield, Sally Shaw, Lisa Millbank, Linda Campbell, and Suzanne Ortiz.

Chat Articles

The Chat editors welcome monthly articles from all members of the Audubon Society of Corvallis. Please submit articles to the Chat editor by the 4th Thursday of the month. Always submit text using Microsoft Word.

Audubon Society of Corvallis
www.audubon.corvallis.or.us

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Audubon Society of Corvallis

the **CHAT**

Renew your membership before the date on the mailing label to avoid missing issues of the Chat.

Calendar

- Jan 10 Board Meeting: Market of Choice Conference Room, 9th and Circle, 7 pm
- Jan 12 Field Trip: Baskett Slough NWR and Livermore Rd, 7:30 am
- Jan 17 General Meeting: First Presbyterian Church, Corvallis, 7 pm
- Jan 20 Hesthavn Work Party. Sunday, 9am - 4pm
- Jan 24 Articles & Field Notes deadline for CHAT
- Feb 9 Field Trip: Snagboat Bend, 7:30 am
- Feb 14 2013 Winter Wings Festival, Klamath Falls Oregon, 4 days
- Feb 17 Hesthavn Work Party. Sunday, 9am - 4pm
- Mar 29 South Coast Field Trip, 3 days

Save This Date

July 12-15 2013 Audubon Convention, Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, Washington.

Black Phoebe photo by Matt Lee



The Chat is published 10 times a year by the Audubon Society of Corvallis, PO Box 148, Corvallis OR 97339. Annual ASC memberships are \$25 for an individual; \$35 for a family; \$15 for student; \$15 for Chat only subscriptions (email delivery only); \$50 for Supporting Level; \$100 for Patron Level; and \$200 for Benefactor Level.

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