



The

May-June 2011

# Quails

News from Lane County Audubon Society

## From Our President



### Observing nurturing devotion in avian parents

Maeve Sowles

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When May and June arrive, birdwatchers are treated to the annual nesting activities of birds that breed in Lane County. We watch males perform rituals to attract females, and many of these activities are predictable and amusing in their repetition. I



Nesting Bald Eagle At Skinner Bute —Cary Kerst

have read that the more mature males are more successful as mates because they have learned a wider variety of songs and behaviors to impress the female birds. We once watched a male Red-breasted Sapsucker drumming on the wooden post of a guardrail near our house. The sound echoed loudly in all directions, amplified by the metal guardrail. He would drum and then lift his head, looking each way to see if anyone was listening. We enjoy seeing such antics by birds eager to find a mate. Although we laugh at them, their ardor is real. They know their time and opportunities are limited.

Once the birds pair up, mate, and build a nest, they devote themselves to rearing the chicks. (This may not be true of every species, of course.) When both male and female cooperate to feed, warm, defend, and teach the chicks, they are better able to assure survival of their offspring. My husband once saw a female bluebird trying to feed her chicks in a nest box, even though there was a cat on the roof of the box.

*(continued on page 5)*

## Wildlife on the move – animal migration

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Joyce Trawle (incoming coordinator)

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**A**udubon Adventures is a curriculum kit published through the National Audubon Society that supplies teachers with the materials they need to enrich their science curriculum with literature-based material. This award winning material is supplied to our local teachers thanks to the generous support of Lane Audubon members.

I have enjoyed the opportunity to help coordinate this program for our county schools for several years now, but I find that my life and commitments are making it increasingly more difficult. We have a new coordinator who has been helping to find teachers to use this year's materials, and she is also a really nice person!

In spite of Joyce's efforts, we are approaching the end of this school year with a few extra sponsors. Your support will be used for next year's teachers. The new classrooms and their sponsors are listed below:

<b>Classrooms With Sponsors – Thank You Sponsors!</b>		
<b>School</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
Applegate	5, 6	Betsy Parry
Willagilespie	4	Peter and Jo Von Hippel
Spring Creek	4, 5	Peter and Jo Von Hippel
Oakridge	6	Henry Bumstead
Additional sponsors are Marty Beyer and Susan McConnell		

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*"Wildlife on the Move" was an excellent series on migratory birds, whales, sea turtles, and Monarch Butterflies. The students enjoyed the poster of backyard birds that was also included. To help supplement interest in the geography of migration, we also used Google Earth to find some of the locations listed on the map/worksheets included. I found this to be an excellent combination for science and geography.*

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*—6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher*

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## Greetings from our new Audubon Adventures Coordinator

Hello! My name is Joyce Trawle, and I am the new *Audubon Adventures* Coordinator for Lane Audubon. I'm thrilled to have this opportunity to be the liaison between our county's teachers, our generous donors, and the National Audubon Society, which develops the educational materials. It's a valuable opportunity to introduce our children to the natural world in a way which is exciting, interesting, and educational. Thank you, Debra Eichner, for all the years of hard work that you have put into this position, and thank you for your assistance as I transition into the role of *Audubon Adventures* Coordinator.

I can be reached at jtrawle@comcast.net or 541.515.6244.

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## Wings and Wine Festival – May 14 – save the date!

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Come out to enjoy the special day that celebrates International Migratory Bird Day! The sixth annual Wings & Wine Festival is scheduled for Saturday, May 14 at the Domaine Meriwether Winery near Veneta. The event will include bird walks, wildflower walks, live raptors, pollinator, and bat talks! Kid's activities will include bird walks, drawing, and building Mason bee boxes. Kayak, canoe, and sailing trips are organized by Eugene's Outdoor Program. In the afternoon, there will be wine making talks, wine tastings, and live music. Check the schedule on the website to see all the activities at wingsandwinefestival.com.

In Celebration of International Migratory Bird Day  
**THE SIXTH ANNUAL FERN RIDGE**  
**WINGS & WINE**  
**FESTIVAL**

**MAY 14, 2011**

**Domaine Meriwether**  
**Veneta, Oregon**  
**Grounds Open 10am - 4pm**  
**Birding Walks begin at 8:30am**

**Birding Walks & Educational Speakers**  
**Sailing, Kayak & Canoe Tours**  
**Live Raptors & Children's Activities**  
**Wine Tastings with Local Wineries**  
Some Activities Require Pre-Registration and Fees

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

**wingsandwinefestival.com**



## A summary of environmental and conservation-related bills in the Oregon Legislature

Debbie Schlenoff

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The 76<sup>th</sup> Oregon Legislature is in the midst of a busy session, and there is no telling how many of the 2,893 proposed measures will see action before this year's assembly concludes. The following summarizes a few of the bills of interest to the environmental community. Senate



Bill (SB) 924 would increase penalties for poaching. Wildlife care centers throughout the state regularly attempt to rehabilitate eagles, hawks, osprey, and falcons that have been illegally shot. Other wildlife such as mountain goats, sheep, deer, and elk would be protected under the bill. A recent study by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife determined that poaching accounts for about 50% of the deer mortality in eastern Oregon. Most often, the perpetrators of these crimes go unpunished, or when they are caught, the penalty is no more than a slap on the wrist. This bill would increase penalties for illegally harming and killing wildlife. Hopefully, the more serious ramifications would also act as a deterrent.



House Bill (HB) 3374, the Wild Bird Conservation Act, would dedicate five cents per pound of birdseed sold to funding for wild bird conservation initiatives in Oregon. This funding would be doubled by federal matching grants up to about \$4 million. Hunters and anglers have long paid license and equipment fees that are used by the state to support game animals and their habitats. This bill provides a simple method of collecting revenue at the wholesale level for conservation programs for wild birds.



HB 2009 regulates the establishment of Marine Reserves in Oregon. Marine Reserves have been scientifically shown to support healthy ocean ecosystems and

increase fish populations, which benefit other members of the food web including pelagic and shorebirds. Supporters of the Marine Reserve system are watching closely to ensure that the bill includes recommendations from OPAC, the Ocean Policy Advisory Committee, which has devoted countless hours to creating a fair and effective system.



HB 2208 defines a "single energy facility" so that energy project developers cannot subdivide their projects to escape permitting review. It is important that wind energy development proceed in an environmentally responsible manner.

Although guidelines have been written to limit harm to wildlife, these guidelines are only recommendations. Smaller facilities can presently bypass the state review process altogether.



A particularly worrisome bill is SB 766, which would hinder public involvement and environmental regulations on industrial lands designated as "regionally significant." It would create a fast track for some of the most controversial projects in Oregon and put many ecosystems at risk, including the Willamette and Columbia Rivers.



SB 536, the "Ban the Bag" bill, would ban single use plastic bags and reduce the amount of plastic waste in the environment, which is a source of potential harm to many wildlife species.

HB 2960 sets up a fund for weatherization upgrades for Oregon schools. The bill would provide jobs and decrease energy consumption as well as energy costs for school districts.



Several bills would undermine Oregon's Wolf Management Plan. After being eradicated in the state for the last century, a small population has recently made its way across the border. The

management plan includes deterrents to keep the fledgling wolf populations away from ranches. Most of the proposed bills call for increased authorization to kill wolves on sight and would undermine efforts for wolf recovery. Wildlife experts are already authorized to kill problem wolves. Ironically, wolves have been shown to control coyote populations; coyotes kill about 10 times more livestock than wolves. Only one bill, HB 3013, supports the management plan by providing a mechanism for compensation to ranchers who have lost livestock to wolf depredation.

Our chapter has written letters to our legislators in support (or opposition) of several of these bills—many thanks to Jim Maloney for his testimony and watchdog efforts on behalf of our community. We will be tracking these bills and more.

Feel free to contact [dschlenoff@msn.com](mailto:dschlenoff@msn.com) for status updates or check out our webpage or Facebook page. A good tool to check the status of bills in the legislature is <http://gov.oregonlive.com/bill/>.



Female Purple Finch—Cary Kerst

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*From Our President continued from page 1*

The cat caught her as she entered the hole. She lost her life trying to care for her young. A few years ago, we watched a female Violet-green Swallow, that lost her mate, relentlessly flying to catch insects, feeding her chicks, and never resting as a desperate attempt to give her young enough food. I felt so sorry for her, but she succeeded in fledging her nest of five chicks, even though she worked tirelessly to do so. Birds have very strong instincts. They are hard-wired to do whatever it takes to raise their chicks. Parent birds seem to know how long to keep the chicks warm and what to feed them. Some know to carry fecal sacs out of the nest in order to keep it clean. They work against many obstacles to succeed, and survival of the chicks is the highest priority for the parents.

Young birds learn some things by watching their parents, especially if a second brood is successful. We had a pair of Western Bluebirds in a nest box on our property that nested twice one year. The chicks from the first nesting helped feed

the second brood. One of the juveniles brought a large green leaf-beetle to the box, entered, and then left again. We peeked inside and saw a chick with the huge bug sticking out of its mouth, unable to swallow the too-big insect. I gently pulled the beetle out, and the chick gasped for air. It survived, but the helpful juvenile had almost suffocated the chick. There are many pitfalls to rearing a family.

It is never hard for me to see parallels between human behavior and behavior we observe in the natural world. Watching the commitment, energy, and focus of bird parents does make me wonder why the human world so frequently fails to support the welfare of our young. Caring for and nurturing the young and giving them a safe and supportive environment is really the only way to help them succeed in life.

## A message from Lane Audubon Board of Directors

Maeve Sowles, President

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president@laneaudubon.org



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

### Lane County Audubon Society Membership Benefits



**The Quail**—  
9 issues/yr.



**Field trips and  
bird walks**



**Program  
meetings**



**Educational  
publications**



**Conservation issue  
representation**



**Answers to  
questions—  
541.485.BIRD**

**Visit our web site:  
www.laneaudubon.org**



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

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

#### Lane Audubon Membership Dues

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

Current National Audubon member       Don't know

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

#### Please contact me regarding

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

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

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



## Notice of Board Elections

Lane County Audubon Society Board elections will be held at the Program Meeting on Tuesday, May 24th. The following candidates are nominated for re-election: Kris Kirkeby, Jim Maloney, Ron Renschler, Debbie Schlenoff, Maeve Sowles, and Herb Wisner.

## Electronic version of *The Quail* available!

Lane County Audubon Society offers an electronic version of the *The Quail*. Each month, LCAS will send a link to your email address that will take you to a pdf version of our newsletter. Viewing your subscription digitally helps save paper and keeps printing costs down. Of course, you still have the option to continue receiving your *Quail* in the mail.

If you would like to begin receiving *The Quail* electronically or would like more information, please contact Tim Godsil at [tgodsil@gmail.com](mailto:tgodsil@gmail.com).



### Deadlines:

July-August issue: **June 4**  
September issue: **August 13**

Submit material to  
Rob Hoshaw, editor  
[rhoshaw@gmail.com](mailto:rhoshaw@gmail.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 (see pg. 5).

**Subscriptions:** Contact Tim Godsil at 541.915.8852 or [tgodsil@gmail.com](mailto:tgodsil@gmail.com).

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## Lane Audubon Officers & Board Members

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## Audubon in the Schools

### *Audubon in the Schools* is going strong! Join our Instructors Team!

Kris Kirkeby

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**W**hat is *Audubon in the Schools*? Our strong program offers six lessons that combine information about bird biology and ecosystems with basic art skills. The students produce accurate bird drawings and render bird plumage colors. We usually visit classrooms for grades 2-5 but also teach in middle schools. *Audubon in the Schools* began in the spring of 2005, and since then, we have reached over 7,550 students!

We have nine trained instructors going out to the Eugene 4J School District and surrounding Lane County schools. I want to thank these wonderful people for all they do for the children (and the birds)! Our instructors receive terrific evaluations from teachers.

We want to guarantee we can book all the requests we get, so we would like to add more people to our Fall Term roster. The training would take place in late summer. We have instructors who are fabulous bird people and others who are more artistic in their talents. Our training equips both types of instructor to enjoy these classroom experiences. We simply look for volunteers who love birds and enjoy teaching young children.



Audubon in the Schools 5th graders.

The training involves two full days. You'll learn bird biology and basic art skill techniques that help students make accurate drawings while sharpening their observation skills. You'll also familiarize yourself with the use of our teaching collection of birds, feathers, bones, and nests. This fall we'll be adding a new bird identification unit and one that offers an interesting new and different approach to drawing bird bones and studying bird flight.

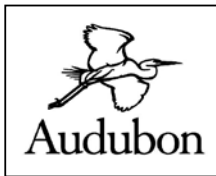
We usually have an instructor teach no more than one visit per month. Each visit lasts one hour plus time to pick up the teaching collection, travel, and setup/breakdown time at the school. This curriculum is exciting to share, and our volunteer instructors, students, and classroom teachers all have fun!

If you are interested in training to teach in the *Audubon in the Schools* program, please call Kris Kirkeby at 541.349.2439 or email at k2krik@comcast.net.



Audubon in the Schools 2nd graders.





# Volunteer with Lane Audubon

## LCAS Booth volunteers make a difference

Spring and summer are always busy seasons for the Lane County Audubon Society outreach booth. You'll find the LCAS booth at many community events from May to September, and we'd love to have it at even more.

We have several opportunities to expand our outreach program, but to do so we need a few extra booth captains to oversee booth operations at community events. Training will be provided, and other booth staffers will be available to help. This is a great opportunity to adopt an event and help LCAS spread the word about birding opportunities in the area.

Here are some upcoming events where we'll either have a presence or would like to have one. If you're available to help staff a table or booth at any of them, contact Ron Renschler, 541.345.0834 or christyandron@quest.net.

- **EWEB Employee Safety and Recreation Awareness Day, Eugene, May 11, 1 – 3 p.m.** Help EWEB employees learn about LCAS birding opportunities.
- **Sixth Annual Wings and Wine Festival, Veneta, Saturday, May 14, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.** This is LCAS's signature birding event, so it's a good opportunity to get involved.
- **Bohemia Mining Days, Cottage Grove, July 14-17.** We're looking for several booth volunteers for this fun event.

## New opportunity!

The Vaux's Swift Migration Study is looking for volunteers to help count swifts as they enter chimneys to roost sites. We have several sites in Lane County to cover, including Eugene, Junction City, Cottage Grove, and Mapleton. We'll be counting on Saturday evenings from the end of April through May. Please contact Nicole Nielsen-Pincus at nnielsenpincus@yahoo.com if you're interested in helping on one or more of the Saturdays.

## Have a little spare time? One of these roles might be for you!

See [www.laneaudubon.org/volunteer.htm](http://www.laneaudubon.org/volunteer.htm) for full role descriptions

**Bird Walk Coordinator** – Responsible for setting up our Third Saturday Bird Walks—probably the most fun job in Lane Audubon! Contact Maeve Sowles at 541.343.8664 or [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org).

**Quail Layout and Graphics** – Use your graphic design and creativity skills to help produce the layout for *The Quail*. Contact Rob Hoshaw at 541.505.9541 or [rhoshaw@gmail.com](mailto:rhoshaw@gmail.com).

**Booth Operations Coordinator** – Help provide an educational service to the community! Coordinate and schedule booth staffers at area events. Contact Ron Renschler at 541.345.0834 or [christyandron@quest.net](mailto:christyandron@quest.net).

**Delivery Quail materials** – Deliver printed newsletters to the post office, and coordinate with *The Quail* mailing crew. Only requires a few hours nine times per year. Contact Maeve Sowles at 541.343.8664 or [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org).

**Distribute Quail in the community** – Help us bring new members to Lane Audubon by distributing *The Quail* to high-visibility locations around the community. Contact Ron Renschler at 541.345.0834 or [christyandron@quest.net](mailto:christyandron@quest.net).

**Publicity person** – Help us get public notices to various media services and spread the word about upcoming Program Meetings, bird walks, and other activities. Contact Maeve Sowles at 541.343.8664 or [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org).

## Field Notes: March 2011



- Cliff Swallows a couple weeks early
- Several Eurasian Wigeons at Kirk Pond
- Nearly two dozen Bald Eagles around Hwy 99
- Western Grebe spotted on the Willamette

Tom and Allison Mickel

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Overall, March's weather seemed about normal with plenty of rain or showers interspersed with bits of warm sunshine as teasers of spring. As usual, the early migrants started trickling into the area during the, but they seem to be arriving later and in smaller numbers than normal – especially Rufous Hummingbirds.

### WATERBIRDS

<b>Snow Goose</b> (2)	March 4	Dillard Rd & Hwy 99	SM,PS	Not many reports this winter
<b>Tundra Swan</b> (3)	March 4	Deflation Plain	B&ZS	Last report from the area this winter
<b>Wood Duck</b>	March 5	Canary Road	B&ZS	First report for this spring in the area
<b>Eurasian Wigeon</b> (3)	March 26	Kirk Pond	DF	A good number for one location
<b>Canvasback</b>	March 5	FRR – Royal Ave	DF,LC	The first report for this spring
<b>Western Grebe</b>	March 31	Willamette River	JS	Not commonly seen on the river in town
<b>American White Pelican</b> (26)	March 31	FRR	JS	Their numbers are increasing with spring.

### RAPTORS TO OWLS

<b>Osprey</b>	March 29	Autzen Stadium	AM	Pair carrying sticks to nest
<b>Bald Eagle</b>	March 1	Skinner Butte	AP	Pair at nest site for the 5 <sup>th</sup> year
<b>Bald Eagle</b> (21)	March 6	Highway 99 area	JS	Highest count for this raptor route
<b>Bald Eagle</b>	March 31	FRR	JS	A bird on the nest
<b>Rough-legged Hawk</b> (2)	March 6	Highway 99 area	JS	Still in the area
<b>Wilson's Snipe</b> (12)	March 7	Delta Ponds	Ma	A large number for one location
<b>Pigeon Guillemot</b>	March 19	Siuslaw River	B&ZS	A bird in breeding plumage – the first
<b>Band-tailed Pigeon</b>	March 19	Eugene area	MS,DL	About a week later than normal
<b>Great Horned Owl</b>	March 11	Razor Park	AV	Adults at nest

### HUMMINGBIRDS TO WARBLERS

<b>Rufous Hummingbird</b>	March 2	Florence area	B&ZS	First report for the coast
<b>Rufous Hummingbird</b>	March 5	Eugene/Springfield	MS,DL	A couple weeks later than normal
<b>Say's Phoebe</b>	March 4	Pleasant Hill area	SM,PS	A normal time for their arrival
<b>Northern Shrike</b>	March 6	Meadowlark Prairie	JS	Still being seen in the area
<b>Northern Shrike</b>	March 16	Deflation Plain	B&ZS	Last report for the area this winter
<b>Violet-Green Swallow</b>	March 30	Eugene/Springfield	AC	Large numbers around town
<b>Cliff Swallow</b>	March 12	E. Regional Park	J&JD	About two weeks early
<b>White-breasted Nuthatch</b>	March 23	Island Park	LM,et.al.	Another bird in riparian habitat along the Willamette River
<b>American Dipper</b>	March	Cape Creek	B&ZS	Appear to be nesting again this year

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<b>Northern Mockingbird</b>	March 5 Junction City area	JM	One was found in the general area earlier this winter at Awbrey Lane.
<b>Northern Mockingbird</b>	March 25 Florence area	JB	Still being seen in the area
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b>	March 16 FRR – Perkins Pen.	NS	A singing bird – migrant?
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b>	March 31 North Eugene	BG	A singing bird – migrant?
<b>Yellow-rumped Warbler</b>	March 13 North Eugene	BG	A breeding plumage bird – migrant?

**Abbreviations:**

Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), South Jetty of the Siuslaw River deflation plain (Deflation Plain).

**Thank you, contributors!**

**JB** Joe Blowers, **AC** Alan Contreras, **LC** Lydia Cruz, **J&JD** Jim & Jodi DeLapp, **BG** Brandon Green, **DF** Daniel Farrar, **DL** Dick Lamster, **Ma** Maitreya, **SM** Sylvia Maulding, **LM** Larry McQueen, **AM** Allison Mickel, **JM** Jerry Morsello, **AP** Al Prigge, **PS** Paul Sherrell, **MS** Maeve Sowles, **B&ZS** Bill & Zanah Stotz, **NS** Noah Strycker, **JS** John Sullivan, **AV** Andrew Van Atta.

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## Welcomes and appreciation

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**Welcome, Lucy Biggs!**

Welcome and thank you to **Lucy Biggs** for volunteering for the Wings and Wine Coordinator position! Lucy lives in Veneta, has been to the Wings and Wine festival, and is looking forward to meeting others on the committee!

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**Thank you, Leila Snow!**

Lane Audubon thanks **Leila Snow** for coordinating bird walks for the past two years! Leila has offered us some new and exciting walk opportunities, and her creativity has been a fun addition to our member activities. Leila hopes to remain involved with Lane Audubon, giving us new ideas in the future, but she is taking a break from her Audubon volunteer work.

Thank you for your time and commitment, Leila!

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**Thanks for strengthening our membership!**

For several years now, **Tasker Houston** has distributed *The Quail* throughout our community at high-visibility locations, including public libraries, bookstores, and garden shops. Her work helps Lane Audubon make complimentary copies of our newsletter available to newcomers to the area and to others who might not know about our birding events and activities.

Many of those who initially pick up a free copy of *The Quail* go on to become long-term Lane Audubon members. We

thank Tasker for her commitment and spirit of volunteerism in helping us strengthen our membership numbers.

If you'd like to pick up where Tasker left off, we'd love to hear from you. This task requires just an hour or two of your time nine times a year, soon after each issue of *The Quail* is printed. To learn more, contact Ron Renschler at 541-345-0834, christyandron@qwest.net.

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**A gift of books and more**

Local resident **Cleve Hedrick** recently gave LCAS his collection of 200 bird and natural history books. We very much appreciate Cleve's gift. We'd also like to thank **John and Mary Armes** of Roseburg for the donation of 13 bird and natural history books and 12 bird prints that had belonged to family members.

If you'd like to include LCAS in your estate planning or will or would like more information, please contact Maeve Sowles (541.343.8664, president@laneaudubon.org) or Ron Renschler (541.345.0834, christyandron@qwest.net).

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Thank you to **Nicole Nielsen-Pincus** for representing Lane Audubon at the Travel Lane County Kid's Day April 2nd!

## Community Calendar, Events and Opportunities

A service to Lane Audubon members

### Frannie Frog Visits the Fern Ridge Library!

Nearby Nature

Learn all about Pacific Tree Frogs Enjoy fun crafts too.

**Tuesday, May 3, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

Meet at the Fern Ridge Library, Veneta.

Free! FMI: [info@nearbynature.org](mailto:info@nearbynature.org)

### Youth Scholarship Fundraiser

Nearby Nature

Join us at Track Town Pizza for a day of fundraising for our Youth Scholarship Fund. Bring our special coupon flyer, and Nearby Nature will get back 50% of each dollar you spend on food.

**Wednesday, May 4, 11:00 a.m. – midnight.**

Track Town Pizza, 1809 Franklin Blvd, Eugene. Free! FMI: [info@nearbynature.org](mailto:info@nearbynature.org)

### Wetland Wander at Wild Iris Ridge

Wren & Long Tom Watershed Council

Wetland Wanders are casual walks through West Eugene Wetlands sites each 2nd Tuesday of every month. Tour oak habitat in the 200-acre Wild Iris Ridge of Eugene's southern ridgeline. WREN will provide binoculars.

**Tuesday, May 10, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.**

Free! FMI: 338.7047 or [info@wewetlands.org](mailto:info@wewetlands.org)

### Annual Wildflower & Music Festival

Mt. Pisgah Arboretum

See exhibits of over 400 local wildflowers. Plant sale & live music!

**Sunday, May 15, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

FMI: 541.747.3817

### Lessons in Learnscape Workshop: Making Drawings from Photographs

Nearby Nature

Learn to use real life specimens to create accurate natural history illustrations from David Wagner.

**Saturday, May 21, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.**

Pre-registration required.

Fee: \$30/members and \$35/non-members. FMI: 541.687.9699 or [info@nearbynature.org/events](mailto:info@nearbynature.org/events)

### Treasure Trails Quest

Nearby Nature

Go on a variety of treasure and scavenger hunts with Nearby Nature and REI.

**Sunday, May 22, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

Pre-registration suggested. Free for members; \$2/person or \$5/family for non-members. FMI: 541.687.9699 or [info@nearbynature.org/events](mailto:info@nearbynature.org/events)

### Amazon Creek Work Party

Eugene Tree Foundation

Help us remove invasive blackberry from plantings along Amazon Creek.

**Saturday, May 23, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

FMI: [ErikB@eugenetreefoundation.org](mailto:ErikB@eugenetreefoundation.org)

### Family Exploration Day at Golden Gardens

WREN

Spring is a wonderful time to explore the West Eugene Wetlands with your family. Golden Gardens is a 146-acre natural area park in Eugene's Bethel neighborhood. Bring a picnic lunch, water, a raincoat, and sturdy shoes.

**Saturday, May 28, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Free! No registration required; FMI: 338.7047 or [info@wewetlands.org](mailto:info@wewetlands.org)

### Salawa Prairie Riparian Restoration

First United Methodist Riparian Redeemers

Mulch native tree and shrub plantings, tree caging, and path maintenance.

**Saturday, May 28, 10:00 a.m. – noon.**

FMI: 541.682.4850 or [brennan.c.mccommon@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:brennan.c.mccommon@ci.eugene.or.us)

### Pre-School Storytelling at the Fern Ridge Library

Nearby Nature

Enjoy nature storytelling for pre-schoolers with a Nearby Nature naturalist.

**Wednesday, June 1, 10:45 – 11:30 p.m.**

Free! FMI: 541.687.9699 or [info@nearbynature.org/events](mailto:info@nearbynature.org/events)

### Field Trip to Malheur Field Station

Eugene Natural History Society

Enjoy world class bird watching on the breathtaking high desert.

**June 2 - 5**

Cost: \$186/person including meals and three nights' lodging.

FMI: <http://biology.uoregon.edu/enhs/>

### Lessons in the Learnscape Workshop: Creating Natural Playscapes

Nearby Nature

Learn why kids need free play time in natural spaces and discover how to enrich the natural qualities of their own backyards.

**Sunday, June 5, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

Pre-registration required. Fee: \$30/members and \$35/non-members. FMI: 541.687.9699 or [info@nearbynature.org/events](mailto:info@nearbynature.org/events).

### Restoration Celebration

Nearby Nature

Join us and the Boy Scouts for litter pick up, restoration, and Learnscape projects in Alton Baker Park.

**Saturday, June 11, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Please RSVP. FMI: 541.687.9699 or [info@nearbynature.org/events](mailto:info@nearbynature.org/events)

## The colorful world of birds

Herb Wisner

541.344.3644

hrwisner@comcast.net



**W**e are excited by the sight of a male Western Tanager or Lazuli Bunting in their gorgeous array of colors, but how do birds use these colors? Where do the colors come from, and how do birds see these colors?

How can black aid a penguin in the cold Antarctic and also be helpful to a raven in the hot desert? A juvenile White-tailed Kite has a brown wash on its head and breast which it will soon lose without molting. How is that possible? These questions and many more will be answered as Dan Gleason presents a program about birds and color, supported by many photos, to illustrate these ideas. You will learn how birds obtain their color, its importance in their lives, and how they perceive color differently than we do. (And you might wish that you could see the world as well as birds—with their superior vision—do.) This is a fascinating subject and one that may offer you new insights when you watch the birds around you.

### Upcoming Program Meetings

*September: Bill Sullivan*

*October: Jim Regali*

*November: Jim Maloney*

### May Program Meeting “The colorful world of birds”

*by Dan Gleason*

**Tuesday, May 24, 7:30 p.m.**



Western Tanager by Kit Larsen

**Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High Street, Eugene**

## Area birding announcements

### South Lane Bird Walk at Dorena Reservoir

See new spring arrivals while enjoying a lightly-visited Army Corps of Engineers park on Dorena Reservoir. The group walk will be held on May 7th at 8 a.m., and we'll return by 11 a.m. The walk is open to all ages. (Children should be accompanied by an adult.) This is a “share your knowledge” unguided walk. Meet by the BMX track on Row River Road to carpool to Bake Stewart Park on the east end of Dorena Reservoir. (Take the main Cottage Grove exit from I-5, turn left onto Row River Road and drive about one mile east. Look for the BMX track on your left.) Please dress for the weather.

June's First Saturday Bird Walk will find us at Row River Nature Park (formerly East Regional Park) on June 4th. Meet at 8 a.m. at the BMX track on Row River Road. Contact Barbara Butzer at 541.942.2401 for more information on South Lane First Saturday Bird Walks.

### Attention Florence area birders!

Are any Florence bird watchers interested in gathering together for a meeting or coffee to connect with other birders on the Lane County coast? Spring migration will start soon, so we are interested in getting together for a local group outing. For more information, contact: jasso-thomas@charter.net.



## Bird Walks and Events

Maeve Sowles

541.343.8664

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

**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.

### Third Saturday Bird Walk

**SATURDAY**  
May 21

## Elijah Bristow State Park

Elijah Bristow State Park, near Pleasant Hill, has a variety of habitats, including riparian, open meadow, and forest zones. Join walk leader Dave Bontrager to look for flycatchers, thrushes, passerines, and raptors.

### Third Saturday Bird Walk

**SATURDAY**  
June 18

## Alton Baker Park

Join walk leader Jim Regali as we look for nesting song birds, water birds, woodpeckers, and raptors as we walk the paths both near the river and through the open or woody areas.

*All levels of birders are welcome, from first timer to expert. We will meet at South Eugene High at 19<sup>th</sup> and Patterson, rain or shine, at 8 a.m. and return by noon. A \$3 donation is suggested, as well as a share of gas costs for carpooling. Please note: As a precaution, do not leave valuables in your parked car.*

*Questions? Contact Maeve at 541.343.8664 or [president@laneaudubon.org](mailto:president@laneaudubon.org).*

### Program Meeting

**"The colorful world  
of birds"**

**by Dan Gleason**

**Tuesday, May 24,  
7:30 p.m.**



**Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High Street,  
Eugene**




**NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
LANE COUNTY CHAPTER**



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