We were called to Sacramento on Sunday morning, July 10th, because my mother had a massive stroke and was on her way to the hospital. Dick and I threw things in the truck and headed south. We went directly to the hospital and spent a couple of hours there with the family in shock, realizing she was not going to wake up. Dick and I went to her house to get some rest, and as soon as we opened the door of the truck, we were met with the full-voiced song of a bird singing at 1:00 a.m.! At first I thought it was a Killdeer, but then the song changed, and I realized it was a Northern Mockingbird going through its repertoire. As we unloaded the dogs and our things, we opened the house to cool it down. The Mockingbird’s song came in through every window. His territorial perch was the neighbor’s chimney, and he moved occasionally from one roof or treetop to another, never more than a house or two away. The moon was going to be full within the week, and I’ve read that Mockingbirds do often sing at night during the breeding season.

Within three days, my mother passed, and we were waiting in Sacramento for the funeral the following Monday. During this time, I started organizing and cleaning out her house, room by room. It was important to me to stay busy, and I wanted (continued on page 4)
C - O - N - S - E - R - V - A - T - I - O - N  tips:  puzzling out how to help

Debbie Schlenoff  541.685.0610  dschlenoff@msn.com

The approach of autumn heralds the migration of birds to warmer climes and the migration of schoolchildren back to the classroom. In the spirit of word games for kids, let's consider what we can all do to help migrating (and residential) birds this season. Keep the game going: share your tips on conservation actions we all can take (either in the form of word games or not) and we will publish some in our newsletter and on our Facebook page. Send them to dschlenoff@msn.com.

C  Carbon sequestration:
New studies have shown that conserving old growth forest increases carbon sequestration which ultimately helps to control the climate extremes caused by greenhouse gases. The new Elliott State Forest Management Plan ramps up clear-cutting in this incredible publicly owned forest. Let the governor and State Land Board know that you don't think it's a good idea to increase logging in our state forests. These forests help to clean our air and water, provide habitat for birds and other wildlife, and provide future revenue in the upcoming carbon market. You can contact Governor Kitzhaber at http://governor.oregon.gov/Gov/contact.shtml.

S  Shade grown coffee and sustainable harvest:
Birds returning to their overwintering grounds find less and less usable habitat as forests are cleared for development and industry. Do your research and buy certified sustainable products that do not degrade vital habitat for neotropical migrants.

E  Energy reduction:
Reduce your carbon footprint by using energy efficient appliances and light bulbs and turning them off when not in use. Support efforts to increase automobile efficiency by walking, bicycle, or carpooling. Checking your thermostat and reducing water usage are other simple ways to reduce your energy consumption.

R  Recycle, reduce, re-use:
Purchase recycled paper products; this will protect the boreal forests that are home to birds that migrate from Canada to our backyards.

V  Volunteer:
Participate in projects such as habitat restoration, bird counts, education programs, letter writing campaigns, and activities that help get people out and enjoying...
nature. Volunteer at organizations that support wildlife (Lane Audubon, anyone?). It’s fun and you get to hang with like-minded folks.

A  Act to reduce bird collisions:
Bird strikes on buildings and other structures increase during migration season. Birds cannot see glass and often collide with windows. You can help by closing blinds and curtains and covering windows with decals, streamers, and netting. For new windows, check out ORNILUX Bird Protection Glass at http://www.roeder-wd.com/ornilux-bird-safety-glass.

O  Organics:
When possible, eat organically grown foods. The health of birds is adversely affected by pesticides. Conventional farming often degrades soil and water quality. Consider increasing your consumption of locally grown food to conserve energy and eating lower on the food chain to protect more habitat and use resources more efficiently.

T  Turn off the lights:
Direct lights downward. Migrating birds are attracted to lights, which disrupt their flight pattern, waste energy, and greatly increase the chances of collisions with structures. See http://www.flap.org/flap_home.htm for more information.

I  Indoor cats:
Cats that roam outside kill hundreds of millions of birds each year in this country. They are not native predators so birds are defenseless against them. An added benefit is that indoor cats are safer, healthier, and live longer because they are at less risk from traumatic injuries and diseases. See http://www.abcbirds.org/abcprograms/policy/cats/index.html for more information.

What do they have in common? All contain important regulations that ultimately protect birds and their habitat (as well as protecting people). All will be decimated under the current budget bill. Let your congressional representatives know that you do not support the many egregious anti-environmental riders contained in the proposed budget.
to save my brothers the time and energy of this task. Dick and I sorted and recycled papers, bagged items for donation, boxed books, and set up tables so we could have everything out for my family to choose from. Fortunately the weather was only in the 80s, so we kept the house opened up all day. Each morning the Mockingbird’s singing woke us, filling the house with his song. His song mimicked a variety of other sounds and bird songs. Once I thought there was a Flicker outside the window until I realized it was part of the rich, complex, and joyous Mockingbird song. He imitated truck backup beeps and phone ringing sounds. He must have been an older, experienced bird to provide us with such a soundtrack. He would flutter up and down, flashing his wing patches, and singing all the while.

That peak of the summer, irrepressible Mockingbird presence lifted me out of my own thoughts and sadness throughout the week. He was a creature I could not ignore and reminded me of nature’s gifts; of the unseen, dynamic forces that propel us forward through life; of parents and children; of caring and compassion, love and friendship; life at its best and how we all need to cherish what we have of these experiences.

So, that Mockingbird, even though he knew nothing of me and wanted nothing of me, gave me a sense of balance and buoyed my feelings as I remembered looking out of those same windows decades ago, with my mother at my side, helping me learn and identify the backyard birds. It was one of her many gifts to me.

**From Our President continued from page 1**

Become a Lane Audubon volunteer!

**Booth Operations Coordinator:** If you enjoy coordinating events and working with people, Lane Audubon is looking for one or two people to adopt the booth operations, which occur about five times per year. This includes setting up and taking down the booth as well as coordinating the schedule of booth staffers. We will provide orientation and training for these volunteer opportunities. We’re also always looking for people to staff booth events. Contact Ron Renchler at 541.345.0834 or christyandron@qwest.net.

**Publicity Volunteer:** Help us get public notices to various media services and spread the word about upcoming Program Meetings, bird walks, and other activities. We also need to make sure we are ahead of publication deadlines. Other goals include developing new contacts with media and keeping contacts and deadlines organized. Contact Maeve Sowles at 541.343.8664 or president@laneaudubon.org.
A message from Lane Audubon Board of Directors

Maeve Sowles, President  541.343.8664  president@laneaudubon.org

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

Lane Audubon 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

Visit our web site: www.laneaudubon.org
Electronic version of *The Quail* available!

Help us save paper and postage! Lane County Audubon Society offers an electronic version of *The Quail*. It’s easy to change your current membership to an electronic submission. Each month, LCAS will send a link to your email address that will take you to a pdf version of our newsletter. You’ll receive the added benefit of viewing *The Quail*’s photos in color, and families can sign up more than one email address to receive the newsletter under one membership. If at any time you decide you’d rather switch back to receiving your Quail in the mail, no problem! If you would like to begin receiving *The Quail* electronically or would like more information, please contact Tim Godsil at tgodsil@gmail.com.

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### Lane Audubon Officers & Board Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

### Lane Audubon Committee Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Volunteer Opportunity</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Most people with bird feeders have given up trying to block squirrels from inviting themselves to our offerings, but few of us devote a ground feeder to these critters – complete with a ladder! So began my interview, at Janet Jernberg’s home, with the “Quail Ladies”—a loyal and hardworking volunteer group that has been in existence for more than 25 years.

Presently, their job involves picking the 1,400 or so copies up from the printer, attaching the prepared mailing labels, keeping them sorted by zip code, and preparing a postal form with permit numbers. All of this requires a quick turnaround—one of those jobs we may not know about but would surely notice if The Quail failed to come on time!

I’m interested in how people come to enjoy birding, so let me relate the stories of our five Quail Ladies: Joan Bray, Sandy Cabraser, Janet Jernberg, Helen Riddell, and Eva Schultz make up the current crew. Claire Watson was one of the group’s early organizers. Helen recalls that she and Joan wanted a new activity and had met Claire at the pool. The very next day Claire took them birding. Joan got interested in nature during her early years in Wales and England. She was encouraged to be a careful observer when, at age eight, her father gave her a flower book. After moving to the U.S. she took bird classes in the late 1960s. She remembers a rather ambitious trip to eastern England, Scotland, the Hebrides, Wales, and the English Channel in 1987. Joan has enjoyed birding trips with Claire, Helen, and Eva. Over the years, she has visited our local Fern Ridge bird watching areas many times and was involved with the Bluebird Trail Project, which built 300 bird nesting boxes. Joan recently donated a collection of nests to Lane Audubon that she used for many years while visiting schools and telling young students about the wonders of the bird world.

Sandy grew up in Kansas and lived in the San Francisco area. She enjoyed living near Merritt Lake, a major bird migration stop east of Oakland, and has now been in Oregon four years. She remembers being fascinated, at age eight, by matchbooks that had bird images on the cover and bird information inside. She recalls beginning to watch birds while she helped her

(continued on page 8)
Volunteer Spotlight continued from page 7

grandmother in her garden. Her serious birding efforts began in the 1950s, and she “became a fanatic through the influence of Eva.” She also enjoys birding trips to the Klamath Falls area and does bird photography.

Janet was born in Washington but moved to Oregon when she was 11; in 1950, she moved to Eugene. She credits Eva for her initial interest in birds, beginning before her retirement, more than 20 years ago. Janet is an active bird watcher in our local area, and she gets daily enjoyment from the many bird feeders in her yard. She has enjoyed birding trips to Summer Lake and the Malheur area and did some bird training at Klamath Falls. Janet is also obviously a great influence on her two-year-old nephew who, while visiting her, glanced out the window and said “Scrub Jay!”

Helen grew up a “city girl” in Portland. She began focusing on birds while teaching at Clear Lake School (in the Bethel area), and her students became fascinated with a long-billed bird they saw. She, being the good mentor she is, developed a teaching unit for these beginning birders. Helen has made birding trips to Belize, Guatemala, and Europe; a memorable trip to Arizona included Joan, Eva, and Claire.

Eva is the most locally-based birder, having grown up on Campcreek Road, about 20 miles away from Eugene. As a child, she attended a one-room school, and in 7th grade drew pictures and wrote stories about local birds. She used a mimeograph to make a book for this project—an early birding treasure she still has! She took a bird class in 1968, taught by J. V. Johnson at Lane Community College. The class participated in a snowy Christmas bird count at south Fern Ridge. She remembers a two-week birding trip organized by Alan Contreras to Florida that included a visit to the Dry Tortugas. Eva has also visited birds on an island near Venezuela, through the Panama Canal, and north to Costa Rica and Baja California.

Along with their hard work with the Lane Audubon newsletter, the “Quail Ladies” have generously sponsored an Audubon Adventures kit for our local schools for many years. We thank them for their long-term devotion and volunteerism!

You too can help with The Quail!

Lane Audubon is looking for a few volunteers to help The Quail, the monthly newsletter of Lane County Audubon Society. Help us in a big way! Would either of these roles be a good fit for you?

**Quail Layout and Graphics** – Do you have document publishing experience and do you enjoy the creativity of layout and document design? Lane Audubon is looking for a skilled volunteer to produce the layout for The Quail. This volunteer receives edited Word documents and photos from the editor and arranges them in Adobe InDesign, adds graphics, and makes sure each issue looks fantastic. There are nine yearly issues of 10-14 pages each, requiring approximately 6-12 hours per issue. Contact Rob Hoshaw at 541.731.9090 or rhoshaw@gmail.com.

**Distribute & deliver Quail in the community** – Our newsletter reaches a broad audience. Help us get printed newsletters out to the community by delivering them to the post office for delivery to our members. We are also looking for someone to distribute The Quail to high-visibility locations around the community in an effort to reach new members. Each of these tasks only require a few hours nine times per year, and it is a huge help! Contact Ron Renchler at 541.345.0834 or christyandron@qwest.net to find out more.
This summer was once again wet and cool, with no sustained periods of sunshine and warmth until the very end of July! Common Nighthawk reports were up again this year, so maybe their numbers are starting to slowly rebound after almost being eliminated from the Eugene/Springfield area. Besides their first report from the River Road area, they were also reported at Delta Ponds.

### WATERBIRDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Observer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canvasback (male)</td>
<td>Jun 4</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>JS</td>
<td>An unusual summer report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruddy Duck</td>
<td>Jun 7</td>
<td>LCC ponds</td>
<td>AJ</td>
<td>A location where they’ve bred in the past</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Loon</td>
<td>Jun 15</td>
<td>Dexter Reservoir</td>
<td>LM,et.al.</td>
<td>A rare summer report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leach’s Storm-Petrel</td>
<td>Jun 5</td>
<td>SJSR</td>
<td>DP</td>
<td>Normally not found close to shore during the day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American White Pelican (40)</td>
<td>Jun 25</td>
<td>South Eugene</td>
<td>S&amp;SG</td>
<td>A circling flock that headed SE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American White Pelican (16)</td>
<td>Jul 2</td>
<td>Tire Mtn. - Cascades</td>
<td>TH</td>
<td>A flock headed south</td>
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### KITES TO AUKLETS

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<th>Location</th>
<th>Observer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White-tailed Kite</td>
<td>Jul 16</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>JW,JS</td>
<td>Returning for the winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swainson's Hawk</td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Eugene airport</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>Rarely found in Lane Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semiplamated Plover (8)</td>
<td>Jun 16</td>
<td>Siltcoos River mouth</td>
<td>DF</td>
<td>A summering bird?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black-necked Stilt</td>
<td>Jul 17</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>TM</td>
<td>A normal time for their migrations south</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Yellowlegs</td>
<td>Jun 26</td>
<td>Siltcoos River mouth</td>
<td>DF</td>
<td>Late going north or early coming back south?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesser Yellowlegs (2)</td>
<td>Jul 17</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>TM</td>
<td>A normal time for their migration south</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semipalmated Sandpiper</td>
<td>Jul 16</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>JS</td>
<td>A normal time for their migration south in small numbers compared to other peeps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baird's Sandpiper</td>
<td>Jul 27</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>BMc</td>
<td>A normal time for their migration south in small numbers compared to other peeps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharp-tailed Sandpiper</td>
<td>Jul 16</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>JW</td>
<td>Only the second adult record for OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-billed Dowitcher</td>
<td>Jul 17</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>TM</td>
<td>Small numbers can be found with flocks of Long-billed Dowitches this time of year in the valley.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson's Phalarope (ad. &amp; juv.)</td>
<td>Jul 4</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>JS</td>
<td>They must have bred again this year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-necked Phalarope</td>
<td>Jul 31</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>A&amp;TM</td>
<td>Starting their southward migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heermann’s Gull</td>
<td>Jul 10</td>
<td>Florence area</td>
<td>S&amp;SG</td>
<td>Post breeding birds arriving for the summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Tern</td>
<td>Jun 5</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>A&amp;TM</td>
<td>At least three nests with eggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Tern</td>
<td>Jun 18</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>KG</td>
<td>Surveys of the reservoir found 20 nests.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forster’s Tern</td>
<td>Jun 4</td>
<td>FRR</td>
<td>JS</td>
<td>Rarely found in Lane Co.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhinoceros Auklet (10)</td>
<td>Jul 10</td>
<td>Siuslaw River mouth</td>
<td>S&amp;SG</td>
<td>Always a good location to see this species this time of year</td>
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### NIGHTHAWKS TO FINCHES

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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Nighthawk</td>
<td>Jun 5</td>
<td>River Road area</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>A few days later than their normal arrival date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Swift (few)</td>
<td>Jun 27</td>
<td>Salt Creek falls</td>
<td>HR,AC</td>
<td>First report for the breeding season</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Volunteers Needed!

Vaux’s Swift Migration Study
Once again the Vaux’s Swift Migration Study is looking for volunteers to count swifts as they enter roosts in the evening at several sites in Eugene, Cottage Grove, and Junction City. Volunteers will be contributing to an ongoing project to monitor population trends.

A few weeks in early September
Training provided. FMI: Nicole Nielsen-Pincus at nnielsenpincus@yahoo.com

Fall New Volunteer Orientation
Nearby Nature
Love nature? Enjoy kids? Learn about leading fall school nature walks in Alton Baker Park as well as other volunteer opportunities.

Thursday, September 8, 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.
Meet in the Singer Room at the Eugene Public Library. No experience needed; training provided. FMI: 541.687.9699, info@nearbynature.org, or www.nearbynature.org

Family Exploration Day at Meadowlark Prairie
Willamette Resources & Education Network (WREN)
Join us to explore the West Eugene Wetlands through unstructured play! Bug nets, binoculars, field guides, and backpacks provided. Please bring water, a snack, and wear sturdy shoes.
Saturday, September 10, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Free! FMI: 541.338.7047 or info@wewetlands.org

WREN Wander at Stewart Pond
Willamette Resources & Educational Network
WREN Wanders are casual walks through the West Eugene Wetlands sites each 2nd Tuesday of every month. Stewart Pond is a 150-acre natural area located east of the intersection of Bertelsen Rd. and Stewart Rd., north of W. 11th Ave. Binoculars provided.
Tuesday, September 13, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.
Free! FMI: 541.338.7047 or info@wewetlands.org

Finding and Identifying Mushrooms
Mt. Pisgah Arboretum
This popular workshop will be offered twice this fall; please be sure to sign up early. Join mushroom enthusiast Josiah Legler for a short lecture and a hike to observe mushrooms in their natural habitat.
Saturday, September 24, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. or Sunday, October 8, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Meet at the Arboretum to carpool to site. Registration required. Fee: $25/non members, $20/members. FMI: 541.747.3817
In the 2011-12 season, Lane County Audubon Society will feature Bill Sullivan with his slideshow “Favorite Oregon Hikes and Adventures” at the Eugene Garden Club, 1645 High Street, at 7:30 p.m. Oregon hiking guru Bill Sullivan will take us on a tour of his favorite hikes and adventures in all parts of the state, choosing the top trips for each month of the year. Based on his new book, Oregon Favorites, the slideshow will include tips on new trails as well as anecdotes about history, geology, wildlife, and people along the way.

A fifth-generation Oregonian, Sullivan has written seven books about Oregon’s outdoors as well as two books on Oregon history, two adventure memoirs, and three novels. His journal, Listening for Coyote, was chosen as one of the 100 most significant books in the state’s history.

**Upcoming Program Meetings**

**October:** “Birding in Colombia” by Jim Regali

**November:** “Birds, Bats, and Wind Energy—An Unnatural History” by Jim Maloney

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**Bon Voyage to Vaux’s Swifts at Agate Hall**

**Friday, September 9 and 16 at sunset**

Lane Audubon is holding its free annual fall Vaux’s Swift event outside Agate Hall at the University of Oregon on September 9 and 16 at sunset. The swifts use the chimney to roost for the night as they gather prior to migration. Last year at this time, we saw 7,000 birds using this location as a gathering place. It is a wonderful chance to observe and learn about the birds that will migrate to Central and South America at the end of the month. Lane Audubon will have handouts with information about the birds. Look for the LCAS banner at 17th and Agate St. Stop by and enjoy this annual natural phenomenon. Contact Maeve at 541-343-8664 for more information.
Bird Walk Coordinator needed
Lane Audubon is looking for a volunteer to plan the monthly third Saturday Bird Walks. This is a fun opportunity to meet and learn from birding experts; best of all, you get to pick the location and be out birding! Lane Audubon has all the dates set, a network of willing field trip leaders, and a list of past birding locations to choose from. Your responsibility would include deciding on a location, contacting field trip leaders, emailing the field trip publicity, and meeting the birding group on the day of the walk to get things started. Contact Maeve Sowles at 541-343-8664 or president@laneaudubon.org.

FRIDAY
September 9 & 16
Bon Voyage to Vaux’s Swifts at Agate Hall
Lane Audubon is holding is free annual fall Vaux’s Swift event outside Agate Hall at the UO. Swifts use the chimney to roost for the night prior to migration to Central and South America at the end of September. Last year, we saw over 7,000 swifts at this location! Lane Audubon will have handouts with information about the birds. Look for the LCAS banner at 17th and Agate Street at sunset.

SATURDAY
September 17
Third Saturday Bird Walks
Migrating coastal shorebirds
Join us for a trip to the Florence area to look for migrating shorebirds. Birding leader: TBA. Bring appropriate clothing for layering, a lunch, and gas money for carpooling. We will meet, rain or shine, at 7:00 a.m. at the South Eugene High School parking lot (19th and Patterson) and will return by 4:00 p.m. All birders are welcome. A $3 donation is suggested. Please remember not to leave valuables in your car as a precaution.

Program Meeting
“Favorite Oregon Hikes and Adventures”
by Bill Sullivan
Tuesday, September 27
7:30 p.m.
Eugene Garden Club
1645 High St., Eugene

Has your Quail subscription expired?
See page 5 for renewal info!