

# The Quail

News from Lane County Audubon Society



## From Our President

Maeve Sowles, 541.343.8664, maeveanddick@q.com

## Where Have My Birds Gone?



Photo: Kelly Fenley, Register Guard

*Pine Siskins and Red-breasted Nuthatch*

The Lane Audubon phone receives many calls from residents who ask that question. We also receive similar questions from our website contact page asking about usual backyard birds that are missing from their feeders.

Possible reasons for the lack of birds in any one location are many. We must then ask the person:

Has there been tree or brush removal nearby?

Has there been new construction in the area?

Has there been pesticide spraying?

Are there outdoor or feral cats in the area?

These and other factors tend to affect birds and other small-animal populations living in proximity to humans. Overall, the effects seem small, as people do not notice one or two dead birds in the bushes. But over time, the tally of animals killed due to these factors builds to a point that we no longer see “our” birds like we did in the past. Unfortunately, the demise of our bird populations is becoming evident. For instance, the results from the 2018 Eugene Christmas Bird Count showed very low numbers of Pine Siskins and Evening Grosbeaks,

which are often winter feeder birds for many people in Lane County. At our home feeders, we have not had ONE Pine Siskin visitor. Purple Finch is another species we are missing at our home cylinder feeders. We only have one visiting this year. Typically we would have big flocks of them!

In the big picture, habitat declines are at large-scale commercial operations and somewhat out of our individual control. Our only hope is to remember that, ultimately the smaller habitat declines are due to individual choices we make. Make your own habitat bird-friendly by avoiding use of pesticides, keeping your cat indoors, and using plants native to your region. (These plants support the insects that feed the birds!) Even a small city property can support the neighborhood birds. Each person’s voice at a town hall meeting can affect the outcome of a town’s discussions about parks and open space and how they are managed.

Please provide safe nurturing habitat and advocate publicly for the birds that we all love. Each of us can make a difference!

Lane County Audubon Society

541.485.BIRD

laneaudubon.org

P.O. Box 5086, Eugene, OR 97405

facebook.com/Lane-County-Audubon-Society-330177413824/



Eugene CBC ..... 2



Field Notes ..... 6



Calendar ..... 11



LCAS Events ..... 12



Photo: Dennis Arenet

## 2018 Eugene Christmas Bird Count

by Dick Lamster, Count Coordinator

The 27 observer teams in the 77th ECBC mobilized on Sunday, December 30. For the first time in recent memory, the Eugene Christmas Bird Count (ECBC) had good weather—a day with no ice, no snow, and no wind! The sun even came out for a short time. And just to remind us it was December in Oregon, it did rain for a few minutes mid-afternoon.

The 155 Field Observers, along with the 76 Home Counters, identified 131 species of birds, plus three more during Count Week. That's a total of 77,239 individual birds. These numbers are about average for the past few years. Our species record of 140, plus 2 more during Count Week, was set in 2005. Our record of 129,874 individual birds was set in 2000. A complete listing and analysis by the Species Compiler, Vjera Thompson, can be found on page 3.

The number of Field Observers came close to our record of 157 in 2012. Last year we had the 10th largest Christmas Bird Count in number of participants out of the 2,585 Christmas Bird Counts in the U.S., Canada, and Latin America. This year there were 52 CBCs in Oregon. A complete listing of all the CBCs and previous year's results can be found on the National Audubon Society's website at [christmasbirdcount.org](http://christmasbirdcount.org). The code for the ECBC is OREU.

Our Field Observers walked 129 miles in 148 hours and drove 571 miles in 89 hours. We also had two observers who looked for birds from their bicycles for 4 hours and rode for 6 miles. Eight teams went owling in the dark for 11 hours, covering 30 miles. The 76 Home Counters watched birds for approximately 217 hours.

At the end of the day, 110 tired, cold, muddy but happy birders gathered for the LCAS-sponsored Chili Feed to share stories and participate in the traditional Countdown. Allison Mickel prepared over 12 gallons of homemade vegetarian chili for the group, which was served along with dinner rolls, chips, and salad. Everyone attending brought a dessert

to share with others. This year, Rebecca Waterman and the Cornbread Café also provided fresh cornbread for everyone. A special thank you goes to them. Sandy Poinsett and Kathy Wilson set up the tables and chairs, arranged the serving tables, organized the rooms, and served chili to everyone. Bruce Wilson and his Clean-up Crew of Charlie Thomas, Scott Spearman, and Rob Mertz had the room looking spotless in record time. The Chili Feed always makes a fun ending to a great day of birding.

A big thank you also goes to Herb Wisner for organizing the Home Counters, Vjera Thompson for compiling the results, and the 27 Team Leaders whose names appear below. Without the Team Leaders' hard work of assembling their teams, guiding them all day, and then reporting the results, the ECBC would not be the great event it is today.

For next year, be sure to mark December 29 on your new calendar for the 2019 ECBC.

Thanks again to all of you who participated and helped to make the 2018 ECBC one of the biggest and best in the country!

### Team Leaders by Area

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1: Ron Renschler   | 12A: Steve Gordon    |
| 2: Jim Regali      | 12B: Thomas Meinzen  |
| 3A: Dan Heyerly    | 13A: Charlie Thomas  |
| 3B: Darryl Wisner  | 13B: Holly Hartmann  |
| 4: Rick Ahrens     | 14: Dave Bontrager   |
| 5A: Donna Albino   | 15: Jim Maloney      |
| 5B: Diane Horgan   | 16: Linda Gilbert    |
| 6: Kit Larsen      | 17: Rebecca Waterman |
| 7: Roger Robb      | 18: Caryn Stoess     |
| 8: Dave Kofranek   | 19: Barbara Combs    |
| 9: Tom Mickel      | 20A: Brandon Green   |
| 10: Vjera Thompson | 20B: Bruce Newhouse  |
| 11A: David Novak   | 21: Ellen Cantor     |
| 11B: Dick Lamster  |                      |

# 2018 Eugene Christmas Bird Count Tally



by Vjera Thompson  
December 31, 2018

131 Species + 3 Count Week, 77,239 individuals

H = High, RH = Record High, L = Low, RL = Record Low, TRH = Ties Record High, CW = Count Week

Species	Grand Total	Relative Status	Species	Grand Total	Relative Status
Greater White-fronted Goose.....	94	H	California Gull.....	4	L
Cackling Goose.....	30,280		Herring Gull.....	25	
Canada Goose.....	4,234		Thayer's Gull.....	3	L
Tundra Swan.....	3	L	Glaucous-winged Gull.....	121	
Wood Duck.....	109	H	Glaucous Gull.....	1	
Northern Shoveler.....	67		Double-crested Cormorant.....	621	H
Gadwall.....	183		American White Pelican.....	53	H
Eurasian Wigeon.....	3		Great Blue Heron.....	134	
American Wigeon.....	598		Great Egret.....	134	H
Mallard.....	1,419		Green Heron.....	2	
Blue-winged Teal.....	1		Black-crowned Night-Heron.....	5	
Northern Pintail.....	765		Turkey Vulture.....	37	H
Green-winged Teal.....	250		White-tailed Kite.....	1	L
Canvasback.....		CW	Northern Harrier.....	53	
Redhead.....	2		Sharp-shinned Hawk.....	9	
Ring-necked Duck.....	245	H	Cooper's Hawk.....	18	H
Greater Scaup.....	8		Bald Eagle.....	75	H
Lesser Scaup.....	63	L	Red-shouldered Hawk.....	35	H
Bufflehead.....	140	H	Red-tailed Hawk.....	194	RH
Common Goldeneye.....	7	H	Rough-legged Hawk.....		CW
Hooded Merganser.....	65	H	Barn Owl.....	9	H
Common Merganser.....	340	H	Western Screech-Owl.....	4	
Ruddy Duck.....	7	L	Great Horned Owl.....	25	H
California Quail.....	161	H	Northern Pygmy-Owl.....	3	
Ring-necked Pheasant.....	12	L	Barred Owl.....	1	
Ruffed Grouse.....	1		Northern Saw-whet Owl.....	1	
Wild Turkey.....	622	RH	Belted Kingfisher.....	37	H
Pied-billed Grebe.....	72	H	Acorn Woodpecker.....	85	H
Western Grebe.....	2	L	Red-breasted Sapsucker.....	27	H
Rock Pigeon.....	565		Downy Woodpecker.....	133	RH
Eurasian Collared-Dove.....	302	RH	Hairy Woodpecker.....	17	H
Mourning Dove.....	247		Northern Flicker.....	394	
Anna's Hummingbird.....	232	H	Pileated Woodpecker.....	10	H
Virginia Rail.....	7	H	American Kestrel.....	112	
American Coot.....	27	L	Merlin.....	4	
Black-bellied Plover.....	47	H	Peregrine Falcon.....	5	
Killdeer.....	315	L	Black Phoebe.....	24	H
Dunlin.....	6,105	H	Northern Shrike.....	1	L
Least Sandpiper.....	122		Hutton's Vireo.....	10	H
Long-billed Dowitcher.....	12	L	Steller's Jay.....	307	H
Wilson's Snipe.....	56		California Scrub-Jay.....	646	
Spotted Sandpiper.....	10	H	American Crow.....	1,237	
Greater Yellowlegs.....	30		Common Raven.....	113	H
Willet.....	4		Black-capped Chickadee.....	869	
Mew Gull.....	3	L	Chestnut-backed Chickadee.....	137	H
Ring-billed Gull.....	414	H	Bushtit.....	802	H
Western Gull.....	7				

*continued on page 7*

# 2018 Eugene Christmas Bird Count Compiler Notes

by Vjera Thompson, Species Compiler



Photo: Dennis Arendt

Count Day, December 30, 2018, was mostly overcast with a few rain showers. But the field observers rejoiced in how mild and sunny it was compared to the last several Eugene Christmas Bird Counts.

On Count Day, 131 species were reported by the field teams and Home Counters. An additional three species were seen during Count Week. We had one first count record, 4 Willets, which are unusual in our area. They were seen at Fern Ridge, which is where they've showed up when found previously in Lane County. Other unusual birds were a Blue-winged Teal, a Glaucous Gull, an American Dipper, and a Black-throated Gray Warbler.

Count week additions were Rough-legged Hawk, Canvasback, and an out-of-season Black-headed Grosbeak. We didn't see any Short-eared Owls or Evening Grosbeaks.

This year was not a good year for the winter finches—crossbills, siskins, and Evening Grosbeaks, although thanks to the feeder counters, we did identify a few Pine Siskins.

Eurasian Collared-Doves have continued to increase in numbers in our area. First found on the count in 2008, this year they reached another record high, with 266 counted in 18 different areas. We also had a record high of 622 Wild Turkeys, another bird that is increasing locally. We also had a record high of 526 White-crowned Sparrows. The 24 Black Phoebes was one short of a record.

Thanks to good visibility, we had high counts of several raptors: Cooper's Hawks, Bald Eagles, Red-shouldered Hawks, and a record high of 194 Red-tailed Hawks. Unfortunately, we missed seeing a Rough-legged Hawk that was found the day before the count, and only had one White-tailed Kite. Many duck and woodpecker species had higher counts than normal, including a record high 133 Downy Woodpeckers.

Our Home Counters contributed to the high counts of woodpeckers, Eurasian Collared-Doves, and Wild Turkeys.

We had calm pre-dawn hours for owling. The teams that owled were very successful, finding 9 Barn Owls, 4 Western Screech-Owls, 25 Great Horned Owls, 3 Northern Pygmy-Owls, 1 Barred Owl, and 1 Northern Saw-whet Owl.

Another successful count thanks to all the birders that participated on field teams and from homes.

# 2018 Cottage Grove Christmas Bird Count Compiler Notes

by Grace Fowler-Gore, Count Coordinator and Compiler

Cottage Grove birders took to the hills and fields Saturday, December 29, for their 16th Christmas Bird Count. The day started out cold and cloudy, and it didn't rain all day.

The 31 participants identified 87 species and counted 6,598 individuals. Among those was a Snow Goose, making a first-time appearance in the Cottage Grove CBC. Four frequently elusive birds also showed up: a Ruffed Grouse, a Ruddy Duck, a Virginia Rail, and a Marsh Wren. The Green Heron we've seen a number of times at Row River Nature Park eluded us this year. We looked on a day before and another day after the official count day but were unable to

locate it, so it couldn't be counted. We were able to add another 4 species during Count Week: Ring-necked Duck, White-breasted Nuthatch, Osprey, and Barred Owl.

Coordinator Grace Fowler-Gore took part in the count and offers her thanks to fellow zone volunteer leaders: Hydie Lown, Alison Center, Catherine Engelman, Julie Parker, Dan Heyerly, Barbara Butzer, and Jan Wellman, plus extra thanks to her life partners, Dena Fowler-Gore and Ed Gore, for their patience and help with the CBC. Another extra special thank you goes out to Paul Sullivan for participating in his 57th different Oregon CBC. In all, he's participated in 173 Christmas Bird counts, eight of them outside of Oregon!

## 2018 Oakridge Christmas Bird Count

by Joel Geier, Count Coordinator and Compiler

Ten volunteers enjoyed uncommonly pleasant weather on the Oakridge CBC, December 28. Participants had reasonably good access, even though forest roads above 2,500 feet or so had about four inches of snow.

We wound up with 59 species, which is close to average for recent years, considering that we spent no effort on nocturnal owling. Two parties did find Northern Pygmy-Owls during daylight.

The tally of 43 Buffleheads was the highest for the 22 years in which data was gathered for this count, including 1972-1985, before this count was revived in 2009.

Grouse, doves, kinglets, chickadees, nuthatches, creepers, and corvids were well represented. “Kettles” of 20-plus Common Ravens were seen by two separate parties, at widely separated locations, leaving us thinking that our total of 85 for the circle might be reasonable.

Raptors were surprisingly scarce, even though the day started auspiciously with a Red-shouldered Hawk perched high in a tree right outside our morning meeting place at

the Lion Mountain Bakery. Beyond that, we found only one accipiter, 7 Red-tailed Hawks, and 5 Bald Eagles.

Finches were also scarce—just 13 House Finches and 3 American Goldfinches, although Lesser Goldfinches and a Purple Finch were seen during count week. No siskins, crossbills, or Evening Grosbeaks were detected. Juncos, however, were abundant, and White-crowned Sparrows were found for the first time since 1985.

We found one Marsh Wren, but Pacific Wren numbers were surprisingly low, and we didn't find a single Bewick's Wren. They are never easy to find on this count, but still we do expect to find a few.

Thirteen Western Bluebirds turned up on High Prairie, and three teams recorded a total of 6 American Dippers, always a welcome feature of this count. Notable Count Week birds included Virginia Rail, Cedar Waxwing, and White-breasted Nuthatch, none of which have been detected in recent years.

## 2018 Florence Christmas Bird Count Summary

by Vjera Thompson, Count Coordinator and Compiler

The Florence Christmas Bird Count was held on Saturday, December 15, 2018. The weather was mellow, with no rain and fairly calm conditions. We had 41 participants in the field and one Home Counter report. We changed the location of the countdown this year, and 35 counters enjoyed the hospitality and delicious food of Best Thai Cuisine at our countdown dinner gathering.

We recorded 120 species, plus 2 for count week, which is close to our average of 126. Count week birds were Common Goldeneye and Mountain Quail that carefully avoided detection on count day.

Our most unusual bird was also a new bird for the count. A Sedge Wren, Oregon's 3rd state record and the 1st found in Lane County, was discovered a couple days before the count and was refound on count day. Since then observers have discovered a second Sedge Wren is present at the same location! The location of the Sedge Wren, on private property owned by the McKenzie River Trust, also provided

high numbers of sparrows and wrens. Record high counts of Marsh Wren (97), Lincoln's Sparrow (21), and Swamp Sparrow (8) were found at this location.

Other record high counts included Bufflehead (587), Red-winged Blackbird (383), Ancient Murrelet (11 in two flocks that were spotted during ocean watches), and a wintering Osprey that was seen by two different teams. We also had a record high count of 22 Gray Jays, thanks to two teams that went up into the mountains.

Species not found included most owls, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, White-tailed Kite, Surfbird, and Purple Finch.

Thanks to team leaders John Polo, Kit Larsen, Alan Contreras, Linda Gilbert, Ellen Cantor, Judy Franzen, John Sullivan, Pat Blue Heron, Adele Dawson, Magnus Persmark, Tye Jeske, and Vjera Thompson. Thanks also go to Ellen Cantor for doing the upfront coordination.

## Field Notes: November/December 2018

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

### Sedge Wren, Fox Sparrow, Red-naped Sapsucker, Harlequin Duck

The weather was a little more normal, but still dry. Some great (i.e., very rare) birds were found during the period, and some normal wintering species were very hard to find. It will be interesting to see what 2019 brings!

**Abbreviations:** Fern Ridge Reservoir (FRR), South Eugene High School (SEHS)



Photo: Andy Reago & Chrissy McClarren, wiki commons

Harlequin Duck



Photo: Andy Reago & Chrissy McClarren, wiki commons

Sedge Wren

#### WATERFOWL TO HUMMINGBIRDS

Snow Goose (2)	Nov 12	Bond Rd	SH,DP	Occur most winters in small numbers
Snow Goose (2)	Nov 14	Oakridge	MLS	Rare in the area
Cinnamon Teal (2)	Nov 26	Ada	DF	A normal wintering location
Eurasian Wigeon	Nov 12	Kirk Pond	SH,DP	First report for the winter season
Harlequin Duck	Nov/Dec	Along coast	M.ob.	Seem to be absent from the coast
Black Scoter	Nov 7	Bray Point	DF	In small numbers during the winter
Eared Grebe (5)	Nov 20	Siltcoos Lake	DF	A large number
Anna's Hummingbird (40+)	Nov 9	Florence area	AC,et al.	An amazing number for one day of birding

#### CRANES TO OWLS

Sandhill Crane (25)	Nov 30	Jasper area	Fide BN	A little later than normal
Long-billed Curlew (probable)	Dec 12	Mt Pisgah area	JR	Heard calling, then large shorebird seen flying away—rare in the valley during the winter
Glaucous Gull	Dec 30	SEHS area	TM,JG	Rare wintering in the valley
Great Egret, smallish	Dec 15	Washburn Rd	SMa	Originally ID'd as a Cattle Egret
Osprey	Nov 11	Delta Ponds	JE	Last report for the Eugene area
Rough-legged Hawk	Nov 12	Cantrell Rd	SH,DP	First report for the winter season
Barred Owl	Nov 1	N River Rd area	MM	Becoming more common in town
Long-eared Owl	Nov 12	Florence area	SP	Heard calling at night; uncommon in Lane Co

#### WOODPECKERS TO SPARROWS

Lewis's Woodpecker	Dec 29	Matthews Rd	TG-T	Wintered in same location last year
Red-naped Sapsucker	Nov 13	Creswell area	SN	Rarely found in the area
Say's Phoebe	Dec 2	Washburn Rd	SH	Found almost all winter nowadays!
Tropical Kingbird	Nov 9	Oldtown Florence	AC,et al.	One or two found along the coast in the fall
California Scrub-Jay	Nov 20	C&M stables	AC,et al.	Found farther north than before along coast
Tree Swallow (2)	Nov 30	FRR	BC,F&TG-T	Unusual in the winter
Sedge Wren	Dec 13	Waite pasture	RR	Third Oregon record—first Lane Co
Northern Mockingbird	Nov 7	Bob Creek	DF	Occurred the last few winters along the coast
Northern Mockingbird	Nov 9	Oldtown Florence	AC,et al.	Occurred last few winters along the coast
Northern Mockingbird	Dec 30	KR Neilsen Rd	CT	They winter some years

<b>Pine Siskin</b> .....	Dec 31.....	West Eugene.....	AC.....	First report for the winter season
<b>Clay-colored Sparrow</b> .....	Nov 3.....	Oldtown Florence.....	DF.....	Very small numbers along coast in late fall
<b>Fox Sparrow - red subsp</b> .....	Dec 10.....	Oldtown Florence.....	DF,DP.....	Rarely found in Lane Co
<b>Swamp Sparrow (4)</b> .....	Nov 17.....	Waite pasture.....	AC,et al.....	Large numbers for one location in Lane Co
<b>Swamp Sparrow (6)</b> .....	Dec 10.....	Waite pasture.....	DF,DP.....	Even larger numbers!
<b>Harris's Sparrow</b> .....	Nov 29.....	Bond Rd.....	RR,DA.....	Same location as last winter

## ICTERIDS TO TANAGERS

<b>Yellow-headed Blackbird</b> .....	Dec.....	Florence.....	SK.....	Rare during the winter
<b>Bullock's Oriole (male)</b> .....	Dec.....	Florence.....	SK.....	One was at the same feeder last winter
<b>Bullock's Oriole (female)</b> .....	Dec 13.....	Florence.....	SK.....	Rare during the winter
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b> .....	Dec 2.....	Mt Pisgah.....	BN,PB.....	Winter in small numbers most years
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b> .....	Dec 7.....	Eugene.....	JD.....	Winter in small numbers most years
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b> .....	Dec 7.....	Woahink Lake.....	DF.....	Winter in small numbers most years
<b>Palm Warbler (2)</b> .....	Nov 2.....	Westlake Co. park.....	DF.....	Small numbers along the coast late fall
<b>Palm Warbler</b> .....	Nov 5.....	Oldtown Florence.....	DF.....	Small numbers along the coast this time of yr
<b>Black-throated Gray Warbler</b> .....	Dec 19.....	West Lawn cemetery.....	BN,et al.....	Rarely found in the winter
<b>Wilson's Warbler</b> .....	Nov 6.....	Westlake Co. park.....	DF.....	Rare during late fall/winter
<b>Western Tanager (2)</b> .....	Nov 19.....	River Rd area.....	LMa.....	Last seen on this date

AC Alan Contreras, BC Barbara Combs, BN Bruce Newhouse, CT Charlie Thomas, DA Dennis Arendt, DF Daniel Farrar, DP Diane Pettrey, FG-T Forest Gage-Tomlinson, JD Joni Dawning, JE Jacob Edmonds, JG Joshua Galpern, JR Jeff Rosier, LMa Libbie Marshall, MLS Mary Lee Seyre, MM Meghan May, PB Peg Boulay, RR Roger Robb, SH Sally Hill, SK Sara Kaul, Sma Sylvia Maulding, SN Sally Nelson, SP Susan Perry, TG-T Torrey Gage-Tomlinson, TM Tom Mickel. **Fide** references a sighting reported to the listed observer. **M.ob.** signifies many observers.

## 2018 Eugene Christmas Bird Count Tally *continued from page 3*

Species	Grand Total	Relative Status	Species	Grand Total	Relative Status
Red-breasted Nuthatch.....	97.....	H	American Goldfinch.....	283.....	H
White-breasted Nuthatch.....	46.....	H	Fox Sparrow.....	203.....	
Brown Creeper.....	78.....	H	Dark-eyed Junco.....	2,964.....	
Pacific Wren.....	36.....		White-crowned Sparrow.....	563.....	RH
Marsh Wren.....	32.....		Golden-crowned Sparrow.....	850.....	
Bewick's Wren.....	133.....	H	White-throated Sparrow.....	27.....	H
American Dipper.....	1.....		Savannah Sparrow.....	4.....	L
Golden-crowned Kinglet.....	291.....		Song Sparrow.....	636.....	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....	332.....		Lincoln's Sparrow.....	20.....	
Wrentit.....	24.....	H	Spotted Towhee.....	527.....	H
Western Bluebird.....	127.....	H	Black-headed Grosbeak.....		CW
Hermit Thrush.....	9.....		Western Meadowlark.....	133.....	
American Robin.....	3,211.....		Red-winged Blackbird.....	1,835.....	
Varied Thrush.....	28.....	L	Brown-headed Cowbird.....	1.....	L
European Starling.....	4,983.....		Brewer's Blackbird.....	1,719.....	
American Pipit.....	197.....		Orange-crowned Warbler.....	1.....	
Cedar Waxwing.....	37.....	L	Yellow-rumped Warbler.....	407.....	H
House Finch.....	484.....		Black-throated Gray Warbler.....	1.....	
Purple Finch.....	22.....		Townsend's Warbler.....	55.....	
Pine Siskin.....	9.....	L	House Sparrow.....	357.....	
Lesser Goldfinch.....	165.....	H			



Photo: Dennis Arendt

*CBC birders scoping the distance for birds*

## Booth Set-Up Volunteer Needed

If you'd like to help Lane Audubon in a big way but don't have a lot of time available, here is a great chance to get involved.

The booth set-up/take-down volunteer delivers and erects our portable booth, tables, and display materials at event and festival sites, and then dismantles them after the event is over. Set-up and take-down require only an hour or two of your time, usually on a Saturday morning and early Sunday evening, a few times a year. If you enjoy being out and about and doing a little light physical activity (nothing too strenuous), this could be the spot for you. Access to a larger vehicle (a van or pickup) is useful but not required.

Orientation and training for the booth set-up position will be provided. It can be rewarding to work behind the scenes to help Lane Audubon spread the word about the importance of birds and their habitats. If you'd like to learn more about this opportunity, please call Ron Renchler at 541-345-0834 or e-mail [christyandron2@gmail.com](mailto:christyandron2@gmail.com).

## Thank You

Thanks to Dana Mitchell for donating 90 wooden bird cut-outs that had been crafted by a relative. They can be used in our kids' education program as they are color images from bird identification posters and make it easy to identify the bird species!

Thank you to Sarah Vasconcellos, who sold lovely decorated eggs which were painted by her sister, Martha Sherwood. They donated all the proceeds (\$130) to Lane Audubon!

It was a surprise gift and we appreciate her time and her sister's talents!



## Oakshire Brewery Hosts LCAS Fundraiser February 6

Lane County Audubon Society is delighted to announce it will be part of Oakshire Brewery's Inspires community fundraising program on Wednesday, February 6. The brewery will donate \$1 to LCAS for each pint of beer sold on that day. Oakshire's Public House, 207 Madison Street, Eugene, serves beer, ciders, wines,

sodas, kombucha, and a variety of food. Brewery hours are 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

LCAS volunteers will be on hand at the brewery from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on February 6 to welcome visitors and spread the word about LCAS's many educational and conservation outreach programs.

Raffle drawings will be held during the hours the LCAS table is staffed, with prizes such as Noah Strycker's recently released book *Birds of the Photo Ark*, a bird feeder from Wild Birds Unlimited, and LCAS T-shirts with a design featuring Vaux's Swifts funneling down a chimney.

Mark your calendars now to visit Oakshire Brewery on February 6, where you can sample a beverage, trade stories with birding friends, win a raffle prize, and contribute to the cause, all at the same time!



## Program Meeting, Tuesday, February 26, 7:30 pm

Dennis Arendt, 541.221.3691, dennisarendt@gmail.com

### Bees: Weird, Wonderful, and So Essential!



Did you know Oregon has 500 species of bees, including four species that are actively managed in ingenious ways for crop pollination? Come and learn who these bees are and some of the weird and wonderful features of their lives. The talk will focus on concepts for creating and

maintaining bee habitat in a backyard setting, and will introduce the audience to a number of state-run initiatives to protect bees. You will leave knowing five very cool bees that are frequent visitors in our gardens and backyards.

Sarah Kincaid is an entomologist and pollinator specialist in the Insect, Pest, Prevention, and Management Program with the Oregon Department of Agriculture. Sarah is a co-founder and ODA project lead for the Oregon Bee Project. The Oregon Bee Project brings together state agencies, farmers, and conservationists to protect and promote Oregon bee species vital to the state's agricultural and native landscapes. The Project aims to provide resources and networking opportunities in areas affecting bee health and to highlight pollinator projects underway with in the state.

It has also funded research examining the role non-*Apis* pollinators play in the pollination of several specialty crops. Additionally, Sarah is the author of an identification guide to common bee pollinators of Oregon crops based on data from native bee surveys in 24 specialty crop systems. The guide is designed to provide the growers, the general public and natural resources professionals with basic information about agriculturally relevant bee genera. This guide serves an area of the country where few native bee identification resources have been available.

### Audubon in the Schools Update

After announcing that Audubon in the Schools is ready to visit classrooms, requests came in from 21 teachers wanting to schedule a visit. There is still time for new volunteers to become involved. Contact Maeve Sowles at 541.343.8664 or maeveanddick@q.com

### Programs to Anticipate

by Dennis Arendt

**March 26** John Sullivan, *Tanzania*

**April 23** Noah Strycker, *Birds of the Photo Ark*

**May 28** Robert Fleming, *Flowers of Western Australia*

John Sullivan is an adventure traveler who focuses on a lot more than birds. He loves snakes, lizards, frogs, and toads. And of course there will be lots about the big animals as well. He is an exceptionally good photographer, too.

Noah needs no hype. His presentation will likely be held in a larger venue. If you have yet to peruse *Birds of the Photo Ark*, do yourself a favor and remedy that situation. National Geographic published the book in 2018. Noah's thoughtful text accompanies Joel Sartore's stunning bird photos.

Bob will talk about flowers from western Australia, especially orchids. He will have great photos and a strong narrative. Bob and several other local people traveled to Perth and then to several exotic locations south of Perth. This is a part of the world that most people have not visited and know little about it. It should be a good final program.



*CBC birders taking a photo break*

photo: Duncan Evered

# Lane County Audubon Society



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

### The Quail Subscriptions

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

### The Quail Upcoming Content Deadlines

March issue: February 2

April issue: March 2

Submit material to Karen Irmscher at [quailkaren1@gmail.com](mailto:quailkaren1@gmail.com)

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

Printed on 100% postconsumer recycled paper with soy-based ink. Layout by Kerry Lutz.

©2019 Lane County Audubon Society. All rights reserved.

## Lane County Audubon Society Officers & Board Members

President	Maeve Sowles.....541.343.8664..... <a href="mailto:maeveanddick@q.com">maeveanddick@q.com</a>
Treasurer	Ron Renchler.....541.345.0834..... <a href="mailto:christyandron2@gmail.com">christyandron2@gmail.com</a>
Members	Debbie Schlenoff.....541.685.0610..... <a href="mailto:dschlenoff@msn.com">dschlenoff@msn.com</a>
	Ramiro Aragon..... <a href="mailto:aragon.nw@gmail.com">aragon.nw@gmail.com</a>
	Rachael Friese..... <a href="mailto:audadventures@gmail.com">audadventures@gmail.com</a>
	Jim Maloney.....541.968.9249..... <a href="mailto:jimgmal@comcast.net">jimgmal@comcast.net</a>
	Rebecca Waterman.....541.653.3354..... <a href="mailto:fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org">fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org</a>
	Herb Wisner (Emeritus) ... 541.344.3634..... <a href="mailto:hrwisner@comcast.net">hrwisner@comcast.net</a>

## Lane County Audubon Society Committee Chairs

Audubon Phone.....	Dick Lamster.....	541.485.BIRD
Audubon Adventures.....	Rachael Friese.....	<a href="mailto:audadventures@gmail.com">audadventures@gmail.com</a>
Audubon in the Schools.....	Volunteer Opportunity	
Booth.....	Ron Renchler.....	541.345.0834..... <a href="mailto:christyandron2@gmail.com">christyandron2@gmail.com</a>
Conservation.....	Debbie Schlenoff.....	541.685.0610..... <a href="mailto:dschlenoff@msn.com">dschlenoff@msn.com</a>
Education.....	Volunteer Opportunity	
Field Notes.....	Allison & Tom Mickel.....	541.485.7112..... <a href="mailto:tamickel@riouisa.com">tamickel@riouisa.com</a>
Field Trips.....	Rebecca Waterman.....	541.653.3354..... <a href="mailto:fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org">fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org</a>
FRESH.....	Art Farley.....	541.683.1186..... <a href="mailto:art@cs.uoregon.edu">art@cs.uoregon.edu</a>
Membership Data.....	Tim Godsil.....	541.915.8852..... <a href="mailto:tgodsil@gmail.com">tgodsil@gmail.com</a>
Program Coordinator.....	Dennis Arendt.....	541.221.3691..... <a href="mailto:dennisarendt@gmail.com">dennisarendt@gmail.com</a>
Quail Editor.....	Karen Irmscher.....	<a href="mailto:quailkaren1@gmail.com">quailkaren1@gmail.com</a>
Quail Design & Layout.....	Volunteer Opportunity	
Recording Secretary.....	Kathy Wilson.....	<a href="mailto:kfred1953@yahoo.com">kfred1953@yahoo.com</a>
Webmaster.....	Hilary Dearborn.....	<a href="mailto:hcdearborn@gmail.com">hcdearborn@gmail.com</a>

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

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

—Maeve Sowles, President

### Lane Audubon Membership Benefits

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

### Lane County Audubon Society Yearly Membership

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

To pay by PayPal, go to [laneaudubon.org/support/join](http://laneaudubon.org/support/join)

I am a  Current National Audubon member  Don't know

Please contact me regarding

Gift memberships  Lane Audubon's Living Legacy program

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

I would like to volunteer for Lane County Audubon activities.

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

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

## Community Calendar and Events

A service to Lane County Audubon Society members

2/2

### Down to Earth Home and Garden

February 2, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

*Backyard Habitat, How to Attract Birds, Butterflies, Bats, and Other Animals*

Please join us on our south porch for a great free talk presented by Dick Lamster. Dick is the past president of the Lane County Audubon Society, a bird watcher for over 35 years, and retired as a natural resource manager for the Federal Government. He and his wife, Maeve Sowles, maintain 10 acres in rural Lane County as natural habitat for native plants and animals.

Location: Down To Earth Home, Garden & Gift, 532 Olive Street, Eugene, OR 97401.

FMI: [downtoearthgene.com/events/list/](http://downtoearthgene.com/events/list/)

2/9

### Mt Pisgah Arboretum

Saturday, February 9, 10 a.m.-noon

*Life Among the Mosses Walk*

This is our annual celebration of the little folks of the plant world. Botanist David Wagner will tell moss stories and weave lichen yarns to help us understand the elfin world of mosses, liverworts, and lichens. Rain or shine.

Meet at the Arboretum's Visitor Center. Don't forget your parking pass. \$5, members free.

FMI for all walks: [mountpisgaharboretum.org](http://mountpisgaharboretum.org) or 541.741.4110

2/10

Sunday, February 10,  
8:30 a.m.-11 a.m.

*Bird Walk*

Join Joni Dawning and Julia Siporin for their monthly bird walk intended for people with all levels of birding experience. They'll use vocalizations, habitat, and behavior clues for identification of our winter and year-round residents. Come discover the Arboretum's avian diversity. Please bring binoculars.

Option to continue the walk until noon for those who are interested. Rain or shine.

Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. Don't forget your parking pass. \$5, members free.

2/16

Saturday, February 16, 10 a.m.-noon  
*Lichen Walk*

Join lichenologist Daphne Stone on this popular walk through the Arboretum exploring lichens, their habitats, and ecology.

Learn a few names and enjoy the moist winter air which makes the Pacific Northwest such a great place for lichens to grow. Rain or shine. Meet at the Arboretum Visitor Center. Don't forget your parking pass. \$5, members free.

2/18

### Southern Willamette Ornithological Club (SWOC)

Monday, Feb 18, 7 p.m.

*Eugene Birders' Night: Birding the Malay Peninsula*

After attendees share recent sightings and discuss birding-related topics, Magnus Persmark will present "Birding the Malay Peninsula from the High-Rises of Singapore to the World's Oldest Rain Forest." He'll take us on an exploration of birds across different habitats, from coastal wetlands and tropical forests to the highlands of the southern Malay Peninsula. All are welcome to attend this free monthly event.

Location: Historic McNail-Riley house, 601 W 13th Ave, Eugene, at the NW corner of W. 13th and Jefferson St., by the former Lincoln School. Park in the five spaces closest to the M-R house, or across 13th in the fairgrounds parking lot.

FMI: [ellencantor@gmail.com](mailto:ellencantor@gmail.com)



2/14-17

### Klamath Basin Audubon Society

February 14-17

*The 40th Annual Klamath Basin Winter Wings Festival*

Featured speakers are Pepper Trail, George Lepp, and Julie Zickefoose. Event also includes 50+ guided birding and photography field trips, workshops, receptions, and more.

Many activities may be sold out by now.

FMI: [WinterWingsFest.org](http://WinterWingsFest.org)



2/15-18

### Great Backyard Bird Count 2019

February 15-18

Anyone can participate! For at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count, simply tally the numbers and kinds of birds you see. You can count from any location, anywhere in the world, for as long as you wish!

FMI: [gbbc.birdcount.org/get-started/](http://gbbc.birdcount.org/get-started/)

3/17

### Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council, Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah

Sunday, March 17, 8 a.m.-11am

*Turtle Flats 3rd Annual Bird Count*

The Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council and the Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah are collaborating to perform the 3rd annual bird count at Turtle Flats! Turtle Flats is our 63-acre property where we are doing extensive floodplain restoration. This site, where the Coast Fork and Middle Fork of the Willamette River come together, is host to a diversity of species. Birders will survey a portion of the area, including some of the old gravel ponds. The survey will contribute valuable bird data over time as restoration takes place at the site. Birders of all ability levels are welcome to participate. Advance registration is required. Space is limited and fills up quickly. For questions, contact Miekko Aoki at [volunteer@bufordpark.org](mailto:volunteer@bufordpark.org)

amazon smile

Give to LCAS  
When You Shop Online

Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select  
Lane County Audubon Society



Check your mailing label. Has  
your *Quail* subscription expired?  
See page 10 to renew!



## LCAS Bird Walks & Events

Rebecca Waterman, 541.653.3354, fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org

### Third Saturday Bird Walk

Saturday, February 16, 8 a.m.

Caryn Stoess and Duncan Evered will lead a walk at William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge. Details will be posted on the LCAS Facebook page: [facebook.com/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824](https://facebook.com/pages/Lane-County-Audubon-Society/330177413824), and on the website: [laneaudubon.org](http://laneaudubon.org). FMI: Rebecca Waterman at 541.653.3354 or [fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org](mailto:fieldtrips@laneaudubon.org)

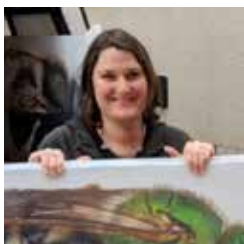
*All ages and skill levels are welcome. Bring binoculars, if you have them. To carpool, meet at 8 a.m. at the South Eugene High School parking lot, corner of 19th and Patterson. We plan to return by noon. Remember that it's not a good idea to leave valuables or your vehicle registration in your car,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

### Oakshire Brewery Hosts LCAS Fundraiser

Wednesday, February 6, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Lane County Audubon Society is delighted to announce it will be part of Oakshire Brewery's Inspires community fundraising program. The brewery will donate \$1 to LCAS for each pint of beer sold on that day. Oakshire's Public House, 207 Madison Street, Eugene, serves beer, ciders, wines, sodas, kombucha, and a variety of food.

LCAS volunteers will be on hand at the brewery from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on February 6 to welcome visitors and spread the word about LCAS's many educational and conservation outreach programs. Raffle drawings will be held during the hours the LCAS table is staffed, with prizes such as Noah Strycker's recently released book *Birds of the Photo Ark*, a bird feeder from Wild Birds Unlimited, and LCAS T-shirts with a design featuring Vaux's Swifts funneling down a chimney.

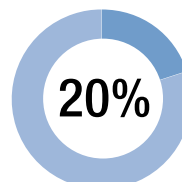


#### February Program Meeting

Bees: Weird, Wonderful, and So  
Essential! with Sarah Kincaid

Tuesday, February 26, 7:30 p.m.

Eugene Garden Club  
1645 High St., Eugene



Join your fellow 20% of Lane County  
Audubon Society members who help save  
paper and postage by receiving *The Quail*  
electronically.

Contact Tim Godsil at [tgodsil@gmail.com](mailto:tgodsil@gmail.com)