Come Celebrate Birds of Prey at the Tenth Annual

RAPTOR ROAD TRIP
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH
9 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

Explore Sauvie Island in search of the magnificent Bald Eagle, hawks, and falcons that spend the winter on the island. On this special day devoted to raptors, experienced naturalists and hawk experts will host activities and answer your questions at four locations around the island. Enjoy guided bird viewing, meet live raptors up close, and sharpen your hawk identification skills. Hot drinks and donuts are available in the morning to keep you warm while you breakfast with the birds.

How does the road trip work?
Begin at Kruger’s Farm Market and pick up your event map and raptor identification guide. The event fee is $10 per vehicle; cash only, and includes a one-day Sauvie Island Wildlife Area parking permit.

To reach Kruger’s, turn right off Highway 30 north bound at the Sauvie Island Bridge and continue straight 1.5 miles (past Howell Territorial Park) to the farm entrance on your right. Carpooling is encouraged. Spotting scopes and a crash course in raptor identification will be provided at three island viewing locations, along with naturalists to help spot the birds. Bring binoculars and field guides if you have them, and dress for the weather. This event takes place rain or shine! It all depends on what nature has in store. Frequently sighted raptor species at the three viewing stations include Bald Eagle, American Kestrel, Red-tailed Hawk, and Northern Harrier. With a little luck you might spot a Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Rough-legged Hawk, or Cooper’s Hawk. Spectacular Sandhill Cranes, Snow Geese, and Great Blue Herons are also commonly seen at this time of year. At Howell Territorial Park you are guaranteed sightings of Portland Audubon’s Education Birds as well as fun activities for all.

What will you see?
It all depends on what nature has in store. Frequently sighted raptor species at the three viewing stations include Bald Eagle, American Kestrel, Red-tailed Hawk, and Northern Harrier. With a little luck you might spot a Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Rough-legged Hawk, or Cooper’s Hawk. Spectacular Sandhill Cranes, Snow Geese, and Great Blue Herons are also commonly seen at this time of year. At Howell Territorial Park you are guaranteed sightings of Portland Audubon’s Education Birds as well as fun activities for all.

No registration is required. For more information, visit our website at audubonportland.org or call 503-282-6855 ext. 119.

Sponsored by Metro, Audubon Society of Portland, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and HawkWatch International.

Join us for the 17th Annual Great Backyard Bird Count!
February 14–17

The Great Backyard Bird Count is a 4-day count held each February with the goal of getting a snapshot of bird numbers and distribution across the globe. As a participant, you commit to count birds anywhere for at least 15 minutes on one or more of the 4 count days. Tally the number of individuals of each species you see, and enter your totals at birdsource.org/gbbc. Last year was the first-ever global Great Backyard Bird Count with participants reporting birds from all 7 continents, including 111 countries! In Oregon 1,993 checklists were submitted including 233 from here in Portland.

Highlights from last year’s Portland count include Prairie Falcon, Eurasian Wigeon, Evening Grosbeak, Gray Jay, and Mountain Chickadee!

The GBBC helps scientists determine trends and identify long-term declines that may call for conservation attention and require further study. Citizen Scientists can make crucial observations and contribute to a dataset the magnitude of which no team of scientists could achieve alone! So start off your Valentine’s Day by expressing your true love for birds and participate in this year’s count.

Questions? Contact Joe Liebezeit, Portland Audubon’s Avian Conservation Program Manager, at jliebezeit@audubonportland.org.
Dear Members,

With the deepest of gratitude to you for your wonderful support, I want you to know that I am stepping down as Executive Director to spend more time with loved ones, effective at the end of our fiscal year on June 30, 2014. I know that “spending time with family” is a familiar fallback line, but in this case it is absolutely true! I remain fully committed to the Audubon Society of Portland’s mission and am exploring with the Board the opportunity for an ongoing role focused on resource development and capacity building. As you may imagine, this was a difficult decision for me to make, but I am confident that this is the right time for a new leadership to take Portland Audubon to the next level of organizational, community, and conservation growth. Our Board, senior management team, staff, volunteers, and community supporters are exceptionally strong. The Board will conduct a search for my successor with the goal of bringing her/him on before July 1.

It has been a privilege serving as executive director of a chapter that boasts a rich and rewarding legacy of conservation advocacy and action that goes back a century and stretches across the state. I treasure the many gifts presented to me through my tenure at Portland Audubon: I have a corner office overlooking Forest Park, and a quick noontime stroll for most people is an inspiring walk in the woods for me. I see and hear children and families excited by seeing their favorite Education Bird on the glove of a volunteer. And most important to me is having had the honor of leading an incredibly talented and devoted staff, who go far beyond their individual job duties every day to ensure that Portland Audubon continues as a community leader in conservation policy and education. Thank you for making this possible.

Although there are big changes ahead, they will not preclude an ambitious agenda. In the coming months, Portland Audubon will be investing in:

- The next generation — by renovating and expanding Marmot Cabin, our outdoor summer camp facility, so that more children can have a deeper experience in nature;
- Protecting common and imperiled birds — by leading a campaign to get lead out of the environment;
- Staff — by increasing internal capacity and improving the physical work spaces at the Forest Park campus;
- Our capacity to care for native birds and urban wildlife — by developing a two-phased approach to build a new Wildlife and Education Center.

With nearly 14,000 members, it is impossible to thank everyone personally. Please know that I sincerely appreciate each one of our members who makes space for Portland Audubon in their lives and supports our work every year.

With gratitude,
Meryl A. Redisch

FREE EVENT!
Welcome Back Vulture Day is coming to Leach Botanical Garden!
Saturday, January 25
11 am–3 pm
For Kids & Teens ages 5-18
Rain or Shine
C’mon join Audubon staff and volunteers as we host a day just for kids. We’ll have free activities and projects based on many of our most popular Summer Camp programs, including Animal Tracking and Art, and many other nature-based Art Activities. Come join the fun!
Pre-registration will hold a spot for Archery (kids only), but it is not required for other event activities. Pre-register Now at audubonportland.org.

Welcome Back Vulture Day is filled with fun and educational activities:
- Meet Ruby, Portland Audubon’s Turkey Vulture, up close
- Compare your “wingspan” to that of a California Condor
- Make a crafted vulture and mask
- Play “Upchuck Chuck!”
- Learn fun vulture facts
- Find out the differences between Old and New World vultures
- Discover why vultures are important

Come and help us celebrate the beauty of vultures!

FREE EVENT!
Audubon Kids Day
Saturday, January 25
11 am-3 pm
For Kids & Teens ages 5-18
Rain or Shine
C’mon join Audubon staff and volunteers as we host a day just for kids. We’ll have free activities and projects based on many of our most popular Summer Camp programs, including Animal Tracking and Art, and many other nature-based Art Activities. Come join the fun!
Pre-registration will hold a spot for Archery (kids only), but it is not required for other event activities. Pre-register Now at audubonportland.org.

Save the Date!
Prescott Bluebird Recovery Project seeks volunteers for monitoring the Western Bluebird population in Oregon. The workshop is on Saturday, March 8, from 9:30am-12:30pm at Chapman State Heritage Area. Register by email (please include your entire name and phone number) at email@prescottbluebird.com.
January 8 (Wed), 9am–11:30am  
**Summer Lake Park**  
Join: leaders Sue Carr and Bonnie Denker for a look at the wintering waterfowl in this wonderful suburban park! Take Scholls Ferry Road to SW 130th Ave. Follow the road around to the left (to SW Winterlake Drive) to the parking area on the left, and meet there. Call Sue at 503-649-3360 if you have questions.

January 11 (Sat), 7am–9am  
**Lincoln County Coast**  
Join Tim Shelmerdine for a day exploring coastal Lincoln County. We’ll look for alids, loons, and other seabirds at Boiler Bay, check for turnstones and “topkickers” on Depoe Bay rocks, then spend most of the day around Newport and Yaquina Bay. Bring rain gear and warm clothing, binoculars (and scope if you have one), and a sack lunch. Please plan to carpool; meet at Lambi’s Thriftyway parking lot in Willamina. From Portland take I-5 south to the 2nd Wilsonville exit (Exit 283). Turn left onto Wilsonville Rd, proceed past two stoplights, and turn left just after Taco Bell into the shopping center. Call Tim at 971-221-2534 with any questions.

January 15 (Wed), 9am–3pm  
**Newport**  
See Newport’s wintering waterfowl and seabirds. Meet at the center. Call Tim at 971-221-2534 with any questions.

January 17 (Fri), 8am–10am  
**Whitaker Ponds**  
Join Patty Newton and Candace Larson for a bird walk at this hidden urban oasis in NE Portland. We will circle the pond looking for ducks, songbirds, eagles, and owls. Park inside the gated area at the Ponds, 7040 NE 47th Ave (TriMet bus 9753). Call 503-231-0933 if you have questions.

January 25 (Sat), 8am–1am  
**Crystal Springs Rhododendron Garden**  
Join Ron Escano to view the wintering birds at Crystal Springs. Bring your waterfowl and views of most the park’s docks, viewing wintering waterfowl and may the Black Phoebe’s that’s been spotted there. Best park access is from the 7040 NE 47th Ave entrance, a quarter-mile north of Columbia Blvd. TriMet bus 9753 stops at NE 47th and Rhododendron. Contact Dena at 503-236-6957 if you have questions.

February 1 (Sat), 8am–11am  
**Whitaker Ponds Nature Park**  
Join Dena Turner and John Nikkel as we walk the half-mile loop trail and observe at the pond’s docks, viewing wintering waterfowl and maybe the Black Phoebe’s that’s been spotted there. Park access is from the 7040 NE 47th Ave entrance, a quarter-mile north of Columbia Blvd. TriMet bus 9753 stops at NE 47th and Rhododendron. Contact Dena at 503-236-6957 if you have questions.

February 8 (Wed), 9am–11:30am  
**Sandy River Delta**  
Join Joe Liebezeit and Patty Newton for a day exploring coastal Lincoln County. We’ll look for alids, loons, and other seabirds at Boiler Bay, check for turnstones and “topkickers” on Depoe Bay rocks, then spend most of the day around Newport and Yaquina Bay. Bring rain gear and warm clothing, binoculars (and scope if you have one), and a sack lunch. Please plan to carpool; meet at Lambi’s Thriftyway parking lot in Willamina. From Portland take I-5 south to the 2nd Wilsonville exit (Exit 283). Turn left onto Wilsonville Rd, proceed past two stoplights, and turn left just after Taco Bell into the shopping center. Call Tim at 971-221-2534 with any questions.

February 11 (Sat), 8am–11am  
**Sandy River Delta**  
Join Ron Escano on a walk around this rich riparian area near the Columbia River looking for wintering sparrows, and possible rare winter vagrants. From Portland on I-84 east, take Exit 18, and at the stop sign turn right and loop under the freeway. Meet at 8am at the parking lot by the restrooms, and bring binoculars. Call Ron at 503-771-3454 if you have any questions.

February 15 (Sat), 9am–12pm  
**Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge**  
Join Patty Newton and Candace Larson as we explore this area’s wetlands and woodlands, talk about the history of this amazing wild space, and look for resident songbirds and wintering waterfowl. Meet at the Sellwood Park parking lot on SE 7th Ave at Malden St at 9am sharp. Expect to walk 2–3 miles on both paved and uneven dirt trails. Call 503-231-0933 if you have questions.

February 20 (Thu), 8am–4:30pm  
**Basket Slough & Ankeny NWRs**  
This is a good time of year to see migrating waterfowl and wintering raptors in the Willamette Valley. Join Benny Graham at the NW corner of Walmart parking lot in Woodburn, and we’ll arrange carpools there. Bring lunch and scope if you have one. Call 503-407-7912 or rdd@demarests.com.}

## Nature Nights

### Second Tuesday of the month from September to May. If you have a suggestion for a Nature Night presentation, contact Pam Meyers at pmeyers@audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855 ext.130.

#### Protecting Arctic Alaska’s Breeding Birds: a 12-Year Adventure with Joe Liebezeit

Tuesday, January 14  
7pm Heron Hall

Northern Alaska’s Arctic Coastal Plain is home to one of the world’s most important breeding grounds for shorebirds, waterfowl, and other bird species that return from all corners of the globe to nest during the brief but productive arctic summers. Many of these birds migrate through our region — from Greater White-fronted Geese and Pacific Loons to American Golden-Plovers and Red-necked Phalaropes. Iconic mammals including vast caribou herds, polar bear, and musk ox roam the vast stretches of North America’s “Serengti.”

Yet growing human development activities and a rapidly changing climate are challenging one of North America’s last remaining pristine environments. What does it take to study and protect these fascinating animals and their habitat?

Join biologist Joe Liebezeit (Portland Audubon’s Avian Conservation Program Manager) as he describes this amazing wildlife spectacle and both a scientific and personal perspective on his 12 summers spent in Arctic Alaska. Joe’s work culminated in significant wildlife protections near Teshrubk Lake, a focal point of nesting bird diversity on the coastal plain. He will share stories and photographs of his work as a conservation biologist along with the natural history and ecology of the area’s breeding species.

#### Marbled Murrelets: Recovering a Rare Bird with Maria Mudd Ruth and Paul Engelmeyer  

Tuesday, February 11 • 7pm Heron Hall

Through shy, secretive, and well-camouflaged, the Marbled Murrelet spends a lot of time in the limelight. For 185 years, this Pacific Northwest seabird drew the attention of ornithologists, birders, and naturalists searching the coast for its elusive nests. The murrelet inspired many nicknames including the “enigma of the Pacific,” “fog lark,” and “beau boms,” and its nest site was long considered the “greatest ornithological mystery in North America.”

The mystery was solved and celebrated in 1974, but worry quickly ensued: that first nest was in an old-growth Douglas-fir. This evidence helped scientists determine that murrelets depend on the mature and old-growth coastal forests for survival and that the continued logging of the forests would doom the murrelet. Lead by Portland Audubon, conservation groups rallied around the murrelet and, in 1992, won protections for it under the Endangered Species Act. Since then, scientists have been studying the murrelet — and tracking its declining populations; conservation groups have been battling to save the murrelet’s forest and marine habitats, and timber companies have been keeping conservation groups in court and in the news.

Join Maria Mudd Ruth, author of Rare Bird: Pursuing the Mystery of the Marbled Murrelet, and Paul Engelmeyer, the Audubon Society of Portland’s Ten Mile Creek Sanctuary Manager and Coastal IBA Coordinator, as they share stories and slides of the murrelet — its life history, the 1974 nest discovery, recent court victories for the murrelet, and important conservation efforts now under way.

Maria Mudd Ruth is the author of more than a dozen books on natural history for children, young adults, and adults. She first encountered the Marbled Murrelet in 1999 while living in Virginia, then moved to the West Coast in 2001 to research and write Rare Bird, reissued in paperback this fall by Mountaineers Books. Maria lives in Olympia, WA, where she is involved in several citizen-science conservation projects and is writing a book on clouds.

Conservationist Paul Engelmeyer has been managing Portland Audubon’s Ten Mile Creek sanctuary, south of Yakima, since 1990. His work includes not only watershed restoration and protection strategies but also marine conservation efforts. He has developed partnerships that have grown into a basin-wide protection and restoration program. In 2012, 80,000 acres were designated a Globally Significant Important Bird Area (IBA) for the Marbled Murrelet. As Portland Audubon’s Coastal IBA Coordinator and the statewide conservation representative on the Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC), Paul has worked on the formation of a system of marine reserves at five sites in Oregon’s Territorial Sea, including the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve and the Seabird Protection Area just offshore of the Murrelet IBA.

### Free and open to the public!
Conservation
Cape Perpetua and Cascade Head Marine Reserves Enter Implementation Phase
by Joe Liebezeit and Paul Engelmeyer, Conservation Staff

On January 1, 2014, the Cascade Head and Cape Perpetua Marine Reserves officially will go from the “authorization” to the “implementation” stage. This transition is significant because it means that long-sought protections for marine resources at these sites will go into full effect. It also begins the process to develop plans and actions that will guide management of the reserves. For this to be successful, the input of many constituents including local governments, agencies, business owners, NGOs, and citizens is essential. Without participation from all entities the reserves will be in danger of existing on paper alone.

The Audubon Society of Portland and partners including Surfrider, The Nature Conservancy, and Oregon Shores spearheaded efforts to establish the reserves over the past decade and now they are actively facilitating the implementation process. The recent Cape Perpetua land/sea symposium held in Yachats, organized by Audubon, Surfrider, and the Cape Perpetua Foundation, was an important opportunity to ramp up the marine reserve implementation process. Over 100 people attended the event, which included presentations and discussions that promoted local stewardship efforts, raised awareness about relevant research, and informed folks about opportunities to engage in them. The reservoir implementation plan process. The impressive turnout at the symposium, made up largely of community members, indicates a true interest by the public to engage in this process — a fact made up largely of community members, indicates a true interest by the public to engage in this process — a fact made up largely of community members, indicates a true interest by the public to engage in this process.

Currently five marine reserves have been designated in Oregon covering 9% of state waters that include the thin 3-mile strip that hugs the coastline. Cascade Head and Cape Perpetua are the latest reserves to come into the implementation phase. The Redfish Rocks and Otter Rock reserves came on line in 2012, and Cape Falcon Marine Reserve will be implemented in 2016. Marine reserves are closed to development and harvesting so all marine life and associated habitats are protected within their borders. Adjacent to four of the Oregon reserves are “marine protected areas” that allow only for commercial salmon and crab-fishing.

Since the 1970s, over 100 marine reserves have been established worldwide. Nearly 90 peer-reviewed studies have shown that biomass, diversity, and fish size within marine reserves is consistently higher than in surrounding unprotected waters. The increased productivity of fish in marine reserves can then “spill over” through larvae dispersal, replenishing surrounding waters that provide an important economic resource for fishermen. Such benefit can develop within 2-5 years of marine reserve establishment and continue to build for decades.

Oregon’s marine reserves were established in areas of high biological diversity including productive rocky reef habitats that are important to many fish species. Sea stacks and islands in the marine reserves provide cervices and haul-outs for sea lions and seals as well as important nesting habitats for thousands of seabirds. Dozens of seabird nesting colonies are nestled on islands along the shores of the marine reserves. Off Heceta Head in the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve over 15,000 seabirds of 11 species breed on the rocky banks including Common Murre, Brand’s Cormorant, and Tufted Puffin. A 22-square-mile “seabird protection area” was created in the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve to protect forage fish species important to the threatened Marbled Murrelet whose Oregon breeding population is concentrated on the central coast.

During the breeding season forage fish species like sardines, sand lance, and various smelt species are vitaly important for growing seabird chicks. Changes in forage fish populations can have dramatic effects on seabird populations. Most recently, evidence suggests the precipitous decline in sardines may be starving Brown Pelicans — a species that only recently left the endangered species list. Commercial fishing for forage fish is growing, mainly to support the booming fish farming industry. Yet many forage fish species are not regulated, so are without any catch limits or fishery-specific regulations. At last April’s Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting, Portland Audubon organized panelist testimony to support greater regulation of forage fish. In June the council officially removed Pacific saury, a forage fish species, from the list of authorized fisheries. This is a step in

Continued on next page

New Year’s Resolution 2014: Successfully Bring Your Outdoor Cat Inside
by Nikkie West, Backyard Habitat Program Coordinator

Have you considered transitioning your cat indoors but haven’t been able to get started? According to the Humane Society, about two-thirds of cats live indoors. If you’re not ready yet, all is not lost. As your veterinarian will support, these indoor felines enjoy freedom from a laundry list of perils — diseases, parasites, automobile traffic poisoning, our healthy population of urban coyotes, and simply getting lost.

Of course, the decision to keep your cat inside or out is deeply personal. But perhaps you attended our Catio Tour this fall, or have been following recent reports detailing domestic cats’ devastating impact on urban wildlife, and have been inspired to try giving your cat a new indoor lease on life. This New Year, consider a Resolution that puts the birds first in your back yard.

Why Now? Because there’s no better time than winter to get started! Our friends at the Feral Cat Coalition agree that bitter cold winter temperatures and dreary rain present the perfect opportunity to begin the transition. Cats can be particularly interested in being outdoors. This provides an ideal window to make the transition before bird nesting season begins in March. So, here’s some inspiration and suggestions for making Fluffy or Goliath the happiest housecat on the block. We thank the Humane Society for many of these great ideas.

Start by creating your feline friend’s indoor sanctuary.
A humorous inducement, particularly in the winter, may be all your cat needs to become a convert. While you make the transition to indoor living, introduce items such as: — a cozy bed in a sunny location, — a scratching post, — something to climb and view the indoor and outdoor world from above, — areas for hiding (such as brown paper bags or cardboard boxes), and — new toys for indoor enrichment.

Take your time.
You’ll have the most success by making the transition gradual until the new way of life becomes second nature. Be prepared for a little lashing out against the new lifestyle — scratching at doors, clawing at windows, yowling, trying various escape tactics, and other feline performances.

Start with baby steps, like always feeding your cat indoors.
• After meals, instead of letting them out immediately, keep them inside for gradually longer periods each day.
• Keep cats indoors during dawn and dusk hours and gradually increase the amount of indoor time around dawn and dusk.
• For the feline escape artist that’s forever bolting toward open doors, train or lure them away from the open door.

Run practice trials where you leave the door ajar and squirt them with a water gun or rattle a jar of coins to startle them. Also try luring them the other way by tossing a treat in the opposite direction. The goal is not to punish the cat but to associate the door with something unpleasant.

Make indoor life fun!
Cats have been domesticated for thousands of years but they still have wild behaviors deeply encoded in their DNA. Have fun with this by providing varied enrichment that honors your cat’s unique behavior. Ideas include: — Toys that allow your cat to express instincts such as stalking, chasing, and pouncing. Even simple items like a bottle cap can provide endless entertainment. — An indoor planter containing feline favorites such as catnip and wheat grass for them to chew on (available at pet supply stores).

Train him to walk on a cat harness and leash and take him for a stroll.
• Give her lots of time and attention — set aside play time each day.

Consider building a “catio” — a fully-enclosed outdoor cat-patio — attached to the house where your cat can enjoy an outdoor experience.

Brand’s Cormorant nesting on the Heceta headland, the southern portion of the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve © Paul Engelmeyer

Happy house cat inside his catio basks in all the attention during the 2013 Catino Tour © Michael Salls

Continued on next page
When I first saw this bird, I noticed that she is probably one of the largest, strongest, and best-looking Bald Eagles I have ever seen. However, you could see from her injured eye and droopy wing that she had a story to tell. Judging from the punctures on her massive feet, we think she may have been in a territorial fight with another eagle, both trying for the opportunity to raise young on such a great territory. An x-ray found a pellet, probably from a BB gun, lodged in her right chest; it’s impossible to tell how long she has been carrying that around.

An x-ray found a pellet, probably from a BB gun, lodged in her right chest; it’s impossible to tell how long she has been carrying that around.

View from the top of Cape Perpetua looking south toward the Marine Reserve, Marine Protected Area, and Seabird Protection Area © Paul Englemeyer

Cape Perpetua & Cascade Head
Continued from page 4

Every animal that comes into the Wildlife Care Center has a story to tell. With over 3,000 animals that pass through the Care Center every year there are a lot of stories — but then again the Wildlife Care Center has its own story. Portland Audubon has been involved with treating injured and orphaned wildlife since the 1930s, before the term ‘wildlife rehabilitation’ even existed. In the late 1970s Portland Audubon responded to the local community need for a place to treat injured and orphaned wildlife by creating a facility to do just that. Built in 1987, the current facility, staffed by 2.5 staff members and over 100 volunteers, is equipped to perform complete veterinary and rehabilitation services, including intensive and critical care, diagnostic testing, surgery, x-rays, physical therapy, and conditioning to prepare for release back to the wild. While the current Care Center has served us well over the years, we are now looking into possibly building a new state-of-the-art facility to serve our growing community.

Come to the Wildlife Care Center Open House on Sunday, February 16 from 11am-5pm for a chance to hear our story. While you are here you can experience:

Behind-the-Scenes Tours of the Wildlife Care Center (see *Note at right). Guided tours will give you a glimpse of what really goes on in one of the busiest wildlife rehabilitation centers in the US. This exclusive tour leads you through the animal intake area, food preparation room, laboratory and x-ray rooms, treatment and surgery rooms, and indoor and outdoor caging. Suggested donation of $5 per adult or $10 for a family.

Education Birds Meet-and-Greet. All of Audubon’s non-releasable Education Birds will be out on sanctuary grounds. Experienced bird handlers will share each bird’s story and information about the species in the wild.

Raptor Education Station. You will be able to learn more about raptors, or birds of prey, with a fun hands-on approach to studying raptor parts. Compare wings and feet and other special adaptations of a variety of raptors. Naturalists will be on hand to answer your raptor questions.

Question-and-Answer Time with a Wildlife Veterinarian. You will meet Audubon’s wildlife veterinarians and try to stump them with your questions. In turn they will attempt to stump you with case studies of actual cases seen in the Care Center.

Raptor Art Show. Kids of all ages can draw their favorite raptors.

Wildlife Face Painting. Put your favorite raptor on your face! An experienced face painter will add a bit of wildlife to your appearance.

*Note about Behind-the-Scenes Tours: Be sure to schedule ahead of time by calling the Care Center at 503-292-0304 on Monday—Friday from 9am—5pm. Spaces fill fast so don’t delay! Registration starts January 1st.

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Educational Trips

These trips are popular. We recommend that you book early. Trip deposit required to secure your place on the trip.

**SOUTHERN AFRICA**
November 6–21, 2014 (tentative dates)

**Afric...** the word alone conjures up images of vast, ancient landscapes tending with birds of Antelope, Zebra, and Black-backed Jackals. And more. Join us on a journey into the heart of South Africa and witness for yourself one of the most amazing wildlife spectacles on Earth while experiencing the raw nature that is still Africa.

We’ll fly first to Johannesburg and then move into the Kruger National Park, renowned for the rich diversity of species that roam and/or fly within its borders. Elephant, Buffalo, Lion are all here, as well as the rare Black Rhino and the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Eland is also home to literally hundreds of species of birds, and we’re likely to encounter the Southern Carmine Bee-eater, the Red-billed and Yellow-billed Hornbills, and the unique Hamerkop, just to name a few.

The best way to experience the African bush is on foot, and we’ll have the opportunity to do just that when we go on walking safaris with one of the most experienced naturalists in South Africa. For 4 nights and 5 days we’ll be based at a secluded tent-camp on the banks of the Kruger River; from here you will experience Africa in a way that few now get to do, with no fence between you and the wild animals that have roamed this land for millennia. We’ll even spend a night, far out from camp, bedding down under the African stars, where each of us will take a turn, alone, at fire watch. The next segment of the trip will take us into the Cape Province, the most developed part of South Africa, to experience the vibrant wildlife of the southern Atlantic coastline and Cape Point, the southwesternmost point of the African continent.

Finally, we’ll spend our last 3 days in Cape Town, considered by many to be the most beautiful city in sub-Saharan Africa. We’ll bird the city’s famous Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens, visit local markets, and take the cable car to the top of majestic Table Mountain. We’ll travel south to Cape of Good Hope, visiting the West Coast National Park and a colony of rare African Penguins along the way. We’ll get a close look at the unique flora of the Cape region, one of the oldest bio-regions in the world. While in Cape Town, we’ll dine at some of its most unique restaurants, and you’ll have a free day to explore this wonderful city.

If you have ever dreamed of experiencing Africa, this trip will deliver. Please call Steve Robertson at 503-292-6855 ext.118 for further information.

**Leaders:** Steve Robertson, Education Director, and Local African Guides

**Group size:** Limited to 14 participants

**Deposit:** $1500 required to secure your place

**Fee includes:** All ground transportation within Africa, all double-occupancy lodging, park fees, guide fees, all meals except some dinners, fees for all planned excursions, and the services of your Audubon leaders. Not included: Some dinners, and airfare to/from Africa and internal airfares.

**Refund policy:** Ninety days before departure. After that date, no refund. After June 15, 2014, group size limited to 10 participants.

**TWO PLACES REMAIN**

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Winter Gull ID
Jan 18 (Sat), 1pm–3pm: Class in Heron Hall
Jan 18 (Sat), 8am–10am: Local Field Trip

Raptor Road Trip Rev-Up!
Feb 5 (Wed), 7pm–9pm in Heron Hall
We'll review key facts about raptors and side-by-side comparisons of similar species of our common wintering raptors. This is a great way to prepare yourself for the Raptor Road Trip and get it started" in bird watching.

Winter Waterbirds of the Coast
Feb 13 (Thu), 7pm–9pm Class in Heron Hall
Feb 15 (Sat), 11am–4:30pm: Field Trip to Coast (transportation provided)
Locos, gulls, comorants, and alcids winter along our coast. In non-breeding plumage they present a challenge to birders of all levels of experience. Add the several species of sea ducks, plus many gull species, and you have a situation that would benefit from some expert help! Join Shannon Finney and learn more about these black, white, and gray gulls.

Identifying Winter Waterfowl!
Feb 19 (Wed), 7pm–9pm: Class in Heron Hall
Feb 22 (Sat), 9am–4:30pm: Field Trip to Coast (transportation provided)
The Willamette Valley is the winter home of thousands of ducks, geese, and swans. Local guide and author John Rakestraw will help you learn to identify our local waterfowl by shape, plumage, habits, and habitats. On Saturday practice your skills at some of the best spots in the Willamette Valley.

Winter Birds & Botany
Feb 23 (Sun), 9am–12pm: Field Trip
Have you ever wanted to learn to bird watch with someone who knows how to ID the birds and the bushes? Join birder Laura Whittemore and botanist Sage Jensen for this new twist in birding. By the end of the morning you should know how to recognize an alder and a kinglet, a wild rose and a thimbleberry, a Doug fir and a nuthatch.

Fee: $15 members/ $20 non-members. Limited to 14. Free to active volunteers.

Spring Break Camp 2014 at the Audubon Society of Portland
To register go to audubonportland.org for online registration or to download a registration form. Call 971-222-6120 to save a place if you are mailing your form. Spring Break Camp runs 8:45am-4:15pm unless otherwise noted.

MONDAY, MARCH 24
Newts and Boots 1st–3rd grade
12:00–1:00pm

Auditorium
Meet us in the auditorium to get an introduction to the world of amphibians. We’ll learn about the anatomy, life cycle and behavior of the Western Newt and the Frog. First we’ll explore the grounds using their sense of smell and touch to find them, then we’ll disect and identify them. Fee: $5 members/ $10 non-members.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25
Aquatic Art
12:00–1:00pm

Auditorium
What creatures live in your local creeks and ponds? We’ll look in Balk Creek and in the pond-in-Audubon’s own Wildlife Sanctuary to find mayflies, trout, and maybe even a crayfish! Get to know the plants and animals that live in this watershed and turn your observations into imaginative paintings and clay sculptures.
Fee: $60 member/ $70 non-member

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26
Junior Raptor Road Trip
4th–6th grade
8:00–10:00am

Raptor Road Trip
Wish you could see the birds of prey for yourself? Join us on a Family Field Trip through Sauvie Island as we trace the path of our annual Raptor Road Trip, and then see what we have discovered! Fee: $65 member/ $75 non-member

THURSDAY, MARCH 27
Forest Mask-arde 1st-3rd grade
10:00–11:30am

Auditorium/Field Trip
Campers will discover the world of camouflage as we make masks and learn about the biology behind their use. Fee: $50 member/ $70 non-member

AMBUSH! 2nd-4th grade
2:00–3:30pm

Auditorium
To ambush a sparrow to be in the air, surprise or to be in a concealed position. This will be our goal as participants divide into clans and use the Audubon Sanctuary to focus on the art of disappearing. We’ll sneak through the woods trying to stay undetected by other clans, as maps that lead to bounty guide our way. Come with us for a sneaky adventure into the art of camouflage. Fee: $60 member/ $70 non-member

Junior Wildlife Vet 102 4th–8th grade
4:00–5:30pm

Auditorium/Field Trip
Join other animal lovers for a day focusing on the care of injured and orphaned wildlife. We’ll go behind the scenes of Audubon’s Wildlife Care Center with wildlife rehabilitators and find out what this exciting job is all about. Fee: $60 member/ $70 non-member

Audubon trip leader and educator Dan van den Broek is your instructor. Contact Dan at 971-222-6305 or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org for more information and to sign up.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2014 www.audubonportland.org 7

Adult Classes
Choose one of 3 ways to register for Adult Classes:
1. Register and pay online at www.audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult and follow registration link. OR
2. Call 971-222-6119 or use the phone or email to put the order in over the phone. See details on the phone message and then the on-line form.
3. Mail in your check: Make payable to Audubon Society of Portland with include class name, your name(s) and, if this is your first class with us, your contact information.

3. Credit card payment: Call Steve Engel (971-222-6119) or our Nature Store (503-292-WILD) to pay over phone. We accept VISA, MasterCard, and Discover (3% fee charged).

Contact Steve Engel, Adult Education Manager, at sengeI@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6119.

Be sure to check our website for upcoming classes not listed here! audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/classes
Sanctuaries Happenings

The dark days of winter have always fascinated me. Amid all the bustle and hustle of the holiday season I would often find myself stealing away from the warm fire, savory treats, and endless conversations of family gatherings for some quiet time in the cold, dark nights of December. The quiet stillness of these solitary moments seemed so much more fitting for the season than the joyful but somewhat hectic array of gatherings and celebrations that mark this season in our culture.

Our recent cold snap brought back a flood of memories from this childhood ritual. The bike paths and natural areas that are part of my daily travels were devoid of people, leaving me glimpses of those sensations of cold, quiet, and peaceful stillness. The Audubon Sanctuaries on Cornell Road were particularly lovely during this stretch. The other day I took a walk, maybe 45 minutes or so along Balch Road during this stretch. The other day I took a walk, maybe 45 minutes or so along Balch Road.

In the little canyon of Balch Creek, the wind does not blow in this moment. The half-decayed leaf litter of maple and the old log it is growing on. In this moment. The half-decayed leaf litter of maple and the oaks, elms, and maples stand, branches bare, in this moment. The half-decayed leaf litter of maple and the oaks, elms, and maples stand, branches bare, in this moment.

I walk, my footsteps silent on this temporary tundra. I walk, my footsteps silent on this temporary tundra. For a few moments the only sound I can hear is my breath, feeling the ice and frost beneath me, concentrating, being alone with myself. I am on my way over the old log it is growing on. I am on my way over the old log it is growing on. Soon I come to the creek, but even the sounds of its small bubbling cascades are muted by the thick ice that covers most of the surface.

I scramble over some rocks and under the bare branches of the creekside vine-maple; I am on my way over to the little island, happy for the chance to explore a little nook that is usually out of reach. Finding a small stone, I let the stillness of this winter day wash over me.

A frozen Balch Creek — truly an uncommon sight © Tom Costello

For Wildfowl Conservation:
Science Diet Kitten Growth • Bleach

For Delivery/Pick-up:
503-292-6855 ext.102, Mon–Fri
Audubon Society of Portland
Camp Director Ian Abraham cautiously treads on a rare frozen Audubon Pond • Tammy Miller

A Winter Wonderland Meditation

by Tom Costello, Sanctuaries Director

Sanctuaries Happenings

A Naturalist at Work is also the title of a museum exhibit curated by Nisbet and his wife Claire that is currently on display at the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma. The exhibit is part of a range of gatherings and celebrations that mark this season in our culture.

See Author Jack Nisbet on January 16th!

Special Limited Edition Greeting Card

For Portland Audubon and the Oregon Cultural Trust. Beautifully hand printed on high quality linen paper, Peter’s verse “Wingbeat” was specially written for us, accompanied by Ford’s lovely Barn Swallow artwork. Come by and take a look!

New Edition Coming from David Sibley!

We are looking forward to the March release of a new edition of The Sibley Guide to Birds (Knopf, $46.00). Why buy the new version? It’s thoroughly updated from the original, with revised taxonomic order and most common common names for every species. All of Sibley’s beautifully rendered illustrations are reproduced 15–20% larger for better detail, and there are 700 updated range maps. Every serious birder will want to have this.

For Sanctuary:
Loppers • Hand saws • Work gloves

Our Wish List

For East Portland Office:
10 Binoculars
For Wildfowl Conservation:
300mm lens & 70mm lens; batteries & charger; 17 8x10" photos with plastic & boards; and 8x10" framed wildlife photos.

Camp Director Ian Abraham cautiously treads on a rare frozen Audubon Pond • Tammy Miller

Thank You to:

• Barbara Beebe for a Swarovski 20-60x Tele-AT6 Scope 80mm and Bogen Tripod 3001 for the Education Program
• Jim Cruce for 27 11x14" wildlife photos with plastic & boards, 17 8x10" photos with plastic & boards; and 2 8x10" framed wildlife photos.
• Dave’s Killer Bread for 16 loaves of bread for the 2013 Wild Arts Festival
• Carol Fischmann for Birds of North America, the Complete Encyclopedia, for the Education Department
• Barbara Jennings & Richard Tuchtsch for an ergonomic office chair for the Development Department
• Judy Lightfoot & Bill Lightfoot for 2 InFocus projectors and 2 Dell laptop computers for the Education Department
• Christine Nelson for a large bag of towels and clean rags for the Wildlife Care Center
• Deanna Sawtelle for a Nikon digital camera body; 300mm lens & 70mm lens; batteries & charger; 3 memory cards & a camera bag
• Deanna Sawtelle for 750 handmade birthday and thank you cards for Volunteers
• James Stringer for an Oberwerk 100mm Binocular telescope and 3 eyepieces (38,25,60) and a wooden tripod

For Delivery/Pick-up:
503-292-6855 ext.102, Mon–Fri, to arrange a time for delivery/pick-up.

The Wildwood Trilogy Concludes

We are preparing the publication of the third volume in the Wildwood Chronicles series from Portlanders Colin Meloy and Carson Ellis. Wildwood Imperium (Balzer & Bray, $17.95) is due for release on February 4th. Having had the pleasure of reading an advance copy, I can tell you that the story comes to a satisfying conclusion after many more adventures for Prue, Curtis, and the rest of the Wildwood characters.

The dark days of winter have always fascinated me. Amid all the bustle and hustle of the holiday season I would often find myself stealing away from the warm fire, savory treats, and endless conversations of family gatherings for some quiet time in the cold, dark nights of December. The quiet stillness of these solitary moments seemed so much more fitting for the season than the joyful but somewhat hectic array of gatherings and celebrations that mark this season in our culture.

The Wildwood Trilogy Concludes

Jack Nisbet has written several books that explore the human and natural history of our region. His recent focus on David Douglas resulted in The Collector (Sasquatch, 2010), a 2010 Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association Book of the Year, and David Douglas: A Naturalist at Work (Sasquatch, $27.95), which is an illustrated collection of essays that explore various aspects of Douglas’s time in the Northwest. A Naturalist at Work is also the title of a museum exhibit curated by Nisbet and his wife Claire that is currently on display at the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma.
Check Each Bird in a Flock for Unexpected Strays

When Mark Wilkinson visited Dawson Creek Park on October 30 he found a brightly plumaged Rusty Blackbird among a blackbird flock near the Hillshoro Public Library. It remained and numerous photos have been taken of this fairly tame colorful bird.

After hearing of this find, birders began checking blackbird flocks in their areas. Soon reports of Rusty sightings came from the Monmouth Sewage Ponds, Newbry Park in Talent, and in the farm fields near La Grande. So far there’ve been no reports from Sauvie Island where one or two Rustys probably winter each year among the large flocks there.

Rusty Blackbirds breed from northern New England across Canada and into most of Alaska. The main migratory route is east of the Rocky Mountains to the main wintering area in southeast United States. West of the Rocky Mountains

Sightings

During November water birds began congregating on the Columbia River in North Portland. All three scoters were reported. On November 14 Dwight Porter reported a Pacific Loon off Broughton Beach. Andy Frank saw a Harlequin Duck there November 20. Adrian and Christopher Hinkle found a Red-breasted Merganser there November 26. On November 7 Lyn Topinka photographed a Pelagic Cormorant on the Columbia River from the Red Lion Inn on Hayden Island.

On November 26 Lyn Topinka reported a

Rusty Blackbirds are not out-of-range stragglers, but are regular migrants and winter visitors in very small numbers. There are numerous Oregon sightings, with only a few reported to the Rare Bird Committee.

Birders regularly check flocks of waterfowl, warblers, sparrows, and other birds for unusual or unexpected species, but seldom closely check blackbird flocks. That is unfortunate as the flocks often contain an odd bird or two.

The large flocks of blackbirds that winter on Sauvie Island are made up primarily of Brewer’s Blackbirds and Red-winged Blackbirds with smaller numbers of Brown-headed Cowbirds. Individuals below-headed Blackbirds are occasionally found, mostly in immature or female plumages. Somewhat more regular, but harder to pick out and identify, are small groups of female type Tricolored Blackbirds. Starlings are often found in or near blackbird flocks, but seldom join them at the roost or resting areas.

Identification of some of these birds can be a problem since most are in less conspicuous winter or immature plumages. From the more common species show quite a variation in their plumages. Such birds challenge the birder and make it a more enjoyable day.

As all birds feel safer among a flock, stray birds regularly join whatever flock is available. Most wintering flocks have one or more of these strays. It is well worth the effort to check each individual bird in a gathering.

Volunteering at Audubon Is Fun and Rewarding!

The Audubon Society of Portland’s mission is to “promote the understanding, enjoyment, and protection of native birds, other wildlife, and their habitats,” and it’s what our volunteers do every day! As one of the Northwest’s leading conservation organizations, we offer a wide range of natural history and environmental activities to members, the community, and especially volunteers. Whatever your interests or talents, there is a volunteer position for you.

These include many regularly scheduled volunteer opportunities, as well as special projects and event positions:

• Help restore habitat in our wildlife sanctuary.
• Be a conservation activist!
• Care for and feed injured native wildlife at the Wildlife Care Center. (There is often a wait list for this volunteer opportunity.)
• Help visitors find the perfect gift, bird guide, or pair of binoculars by being a clerk at the Nature Store.
• Lead school groups through a fascinating exploration of our nature sanctuary.
• Be a voice for Audubon by volunteering as a receptionist or an Audubon Docent.
• Help make Audubon’s special events successful, like the Wild Arts Festival, the Native Plant Sale, International Vulture Awareness Day, and Swift Watch.

New Volunteer Orientation is Thursday, February 6, 8:30am-12:30pm. Before attending Orientation, participants are required to complete a Volunteer Application at http://audubonportland.org/about/volunteer/volunteer.php. Those who wish to volunteer in a capacity beyond special events must also attend General Volunteer Training on Saturday, February 15, 9am-4:30pm.

If you would like to donate some of your time and energy to the Audubon Society of Portland but have questions, please contact Deanna Sawtelle, Volunteer Manager, at dsawtelle@audubonportland.org or 503-292-6855 ext. 108.

Volunteer of the Month: Mary Ratcliffe

Mary Ratcliffe makes things happen. As a volunteer, she brings great analytical skills and a wealth of computer experience to Audubon. But far more importantly, she has a deep love of birding and unquenchable enthusiasm.

How has Mary contributed to Portland Audubon? Here’s just a partial listing. She is a key part of the stellar Wild Arts Festival Book Fair Committee. She regularly participates in Birdathons and Christmas Bird Counts. She eagerly signs up to represent Audubon at off-site events like the Ridgefield Bird Fest or the Festival of the Birds at Sauvie Island.

As a volunteer, she brings great analytical skills and a wealth of computer experience to Audubon. But far more importantly, she has a deep love of birding and unquenchable enthusiasm.

Thanks, Mary, for all you do for Portland Audubon!
The transformation of Montgomery Park on the eve of the Wild Arts Festival is truly incredible. On Friday, the whole building starts buzzing with artists, authors, volunteers, and Audubon staff. At first, it may look like a chaotic jumble of boxes, hand trucks, ladders, and folding screens, but slowly the careful observer will start to notice an underlying harmony: people lending a hand, hugging the friends they haven’t seen since last November, and oohing and ahhing over all the treasures. And — voila! By Saturday morning, the space is utterly transformed: three stories packed with gorgeous art, beautiful books, breathtaking birds, exciting finds at the Silent Auction, the exquisite mosaic that is the Fox display, and people smiling.

These smiling people are a wonderful part of the Festival. Because what makes Wild Arts special is not just the talent of our fabulous artists and authors: it’s the way the community comes together. It’s the joy of seeing old friends, meeting new ones, and celebrating the magic that happens when art and nature intersect.

But you don’t have to take our word for it; over and over again, we get wildly positive feedback from the artists and authors. Comments like “This has become one of my favorite shows to gear up for, such a great vibe and great cause” are heard.

Here are just a few facts and figures to give you a taste of what a remarkable event this was:

First of all, we are thrilled to announce that close to $150,000 was raised for Portland Audubon!

In addition, 69 artists working with paint, cameras, clay, metal, wood, and more had some of their highest sales ever. At the Silent Auction, we topped Sponsorships this year to over $33,000. These smiling people are a wonderful part of the Festival.

Thank you, sponsors!

Many people and organizations come together to make the Wild Arts Festival possible, but we are particularly thankful to these businesses, artists, and authors for making this event happen:

**Great Blue Heron Level Sponsors**

- Kruger’s Farm Market
- Roberta Lampert and Jim Piper
- Vern and Carol Edwards
- Garden Fever
- Bill Gaylord and Linda Eyerman
- Marsha Henry

**35 Northwest authors arrived ready to sell and sign their latest books (and we sold out of more than a few titles)!!**

Sarah Swanson and Max Smith, authors of M size Births of the Pacific Northwest

**Great Blue Heron Level Sponsors**

- Xtabay Vintage Clothing
- St. Honoré Bakery
- the spark
tank
- Meryl Redish
- the spark
tank
- Eliza Malin and Jennifer Jones
- marks Family
- Rachel Parmenter
- Portfolio 21
- Sarah Swanson and Max Smith, authors of M size Births of the Pacific Northwest

**Thank you, friends and supporters!**

Thank you to the also to the wonderful 40 Friends of Wild Arts and our fabulous Community Supporters; we couldn’t do this without you.

**40 Friends of Wild Arts**

- Bob Gandolfi Event Production
- Kruger’s Farm Market
- Roberta Lampert and Jim Piper
- Vern and Carol Edwards
- Garden Fever
- Bill Gaylord and Linda Eyerman
- Marsha Henry

**Community Supporters**

- Garvey Schubert Berer Law
- Shirley Fisher
- George & Peggy Graves
- Patricia Justice
- The Simonelli Family
- Susan Marmaduke & Bob Clay
- Edward Clay

**In Memory**

- Elaine Bennett
- Pamela Blom
- The Mitchell Family
- Marv & Peggy Rue
- Edward Clay
- Susan Marmaduke & Bob Clay
- Edward Clay
- Susan Marmaduke & Bob Clay
- Edward Clay

**In Honor**

- John Arnold & Curt Bouton
- Richard & Carolene Arnold
- Liz Bryan
- Lynn Reer & Claire Levine
- Tanya Cecka
- Leigh Cecka
- Guests of the Cherokee Rose Inn
- Sandra Miller
- Luke Hammar
- Donna Hammar
- Dawn Jansen & Alan Kiphus
- David Jansen
- Kay Jenks Lynch
- Frances Lynch
- Margie Nuffer
- Elisabeth Hall
- Severin & Gavilla Piper
- Roberta Lampert & Jim Piper
- Jerry Porter
- Teressa Statler
- Mike Ryan
- Esme de Schutter
- Sheila & Bruce Stern
- St. Honoré Bakery
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You can honor a special person with a gift to Audubon Society of Portland. Your gift will help fund a future of inspiring people to love and protect nature.

You can make an Honor or Memorial gift online at www.audubonportland.org or by calling 503-222-0130. A songbird card acknowledging your thoughtful gift will be sent to the honoree or family.

**Thank you, WAF volunteers!**

Planning for Wild Arts begins in January, with a talented group of volunteers chairing major committees. Special thanks to Mary Solares, Festival Chair, and to other Committee Chairs including Candy Plant, Carol Enyart, Cindy von Otterheim, Martha Gannett, Molly Marks, Roberta Lampert, and Wink Gross.

Additional thanks go to Allan Solares, Ann Littlewood, Anne Eakin, Barb Macomber, Beth Parmenter, Bob Wilson, Bruce Schneider, Claire Wilson, Gay Gregory, Jill Turner, John Plant, Laurie Garretson, Linda Craig, Marilyn Scott, Mary Ratcliff, Rusty Whitney, Susan Hartner, Tammy Spencer, and Toni Rhim... not to mention the other 200 volunteers who made this Festival a success.

Finally, a very special thanks to Bob Gandolfi, a talented event producer contracted by Portland Audubon, whose insight and expertise has guided the Festival for the past seven years.

Next year’s Wild Arts Festival will be November 22–23, so be sure to mark your calendars!
Welcome, New Members!

Portland Audubon is a force in conservation thanks to its strength in membership, standing together since 1902. We appreciate each and every one of our members and celebrate our membership by welcoming new members in each Wathler. Thank you for joining our vibrant and growing community!

Join us at “Brink,” the second annual Audubon Society of Portland benefit show at antler gallery!

W e are so pleased to announce that on Thursday, January 30, antler gallery will open their second annual Audubon Society of Portland benefit show, titled “Brink.”

15 artists have been asked to make works that focus on either the way you use or an endangered species. These new, original pieces will be on display for one month, into a larger space in the Alberta Arts Estate Planning 101

What are the basics of estate planning? Philip Jones, a former beneficiary designations for life insurance and retirement accounts. Most estate plans include a will or trust, a power of attorney, and a special trust for the executor. If you don’t have a will or trust, your assets will pass by law to certain members of your family as specified by state laws, and that might not be exactly what you want. The best time to start an estate plan is now, rather than waiting.

Estate Planning 101

How do you start a process of estate planning? Make a list of your assets, including bank accounts, investments, real estate, life insurance, and retirement accounts. Indicate the approximate value of each asset and the person or persons you trust to make decisions about them.

Where do things go wrong in planning? Things often go wrong when a person attempts to prepare their own estate plan without professional assistance, or if they get professional guidance but does not implement the plan.

Do you want to leave us a “last word” of advice? Getting your estate plan in order is a wonderful gift you can give to your family, and to any charities that you might like to benefit. You can give yourself peace of mind, knowing that you have a good plan in place.

Thinking about including Audubon Society of Portland in your estate plans? Contact Ann Takamato, Development Director, at 971-222-6117.

Portland’s mission to protect birds, wildlife, and habitat resonates with gallery founders and curators Susannah Kelly and Neil Perry, who feel it is important to support wildlife conservation across Oregon.

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How big are the tax repercussions of various decisions? With a well-drafted estate plan, your taxes can be reduced, postponed, or even eliminated. The federal estate tax rate is 40% after an exemption of $5,250,000. The Oregon estate tax exemption is $1,000,000, and rates above that vary from 10% to 16%. In many cases, those taxes can be eliminated through the proper use of exemptions and deductions provided by law, but with no estate plan or one that is not well-drafted, the taxes can be very significant.

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Examination of the language, history, and structure of the legislation under review here indicates beyond doubt that Congress intended the Endangered Species Act to be afforded the highest of priorities. As it was passed, the Endangered Species Act of 1973 represented the most comprehensive legislation for the preservation of endangered species ever enacted by any nation.

As we enter a new year, we thought we would look at some of the species in our region whose survival has depended upon the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

**Past Successes**

Bald Eagles, Peregrine Falcons: Driven to the brink of extinction by the pesticide DDT, Peregrine Falcons and Bald Eagles were among the first animals listed under the ESA. Today both species have made spectacular comebacks. Peregrines were removed from the list in 1989 and Bald Eagles were removed in 2007. Once absent from our skies, we can now see both species nesting in downtown Portland! Audubon continues to actively monitor Peregrine Falcons.

Northern Spotted Owls and Marbled Murrelets were listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act in 1990 and 1992 respectively, both due to loss and fragmentation of old-growth forests. Portland Audubon played a key role in both listings. In the case of the Marbled Murrelet, Portland Audubon contracted for the status review that led to the listing and served as chief petitioner. Today, the populations of both species continue to decline due to inadequate enforcement of the ESA and new logging threats. Audubon continues to fight for their protection and recovery, most recently litigating against the State of Oregon for their protection and recovery.

**Emerging Challenges**

The Streaked Horned Lark, a bird that depends on grassland habitat and which finds its last strongholds in the Willamette Valley including undeveloped industrial lands in North Portland, was listed under the ESA in 2013. The Greater Sage-Grouse, iconic species of Eastern Oregon which is imperiled by loss and fragmentation and development in sage-steppe habitat, will be reconsidered for listing in 2014. Audubon has a direct role to play in recovering the Streaked Horned Lark right here in Portland, while the implications of listing the Greater Sage-Grouse could impact protections of our desert ecosystems on par with what Northern Spotted Owls have done for our forests.

**RARE BIRD ALERT**

We are deep in planning to make Birdathon 2014 the biggest, baddest Birdathon of all time! We did break some amazing records in 2013 — 34 teams, including 7 new teams, with 280 participants and over 2,000 donations totaling an amazing $157,000 raised to protect birds across Oregon!

Can we top this? Of course we can! Mark your calendars for Birdathon registration on March 15. We’ll be giving updates in the March/April Header and at our website. Be sure to follow us on Facebook for the latest information.

Want to take it to the next level? How about creating your own Birdathon team?

- Your Birdathon team can be you and a group of friends getting together for a morning of bird watching.
- Your Birdathon team can be you and your family enjoying a special day of birding at your backyard locations.
- Your Birdathon team can be you introducing a group of co-workers to your favorite birding spot.
- If you’re an experienced field trip leader, why not lead your own team to your favorite birding locations?

The success of our Birdathons lies in the depth and growing diversity of our Birdathletes — all of you! So join the fun! For information about creating a Birdathon team, contact us at mark.birdathon@gmail.com.

**Board Officers**

- President: David Mandell
- Vice President: John Osborn
- Secretary: Beth Hill
- Treasurer: Candy Plant

**Board Members**

- Tony Delfino
- Kerri Kidaba
- Jennifer Miller
- Ruth Mitchell
- Northern Spotted Owl photo: Kevin Cola
- Bald Eagle photo: Dave Menke/USFWS
- Streaked Horned Lark photo: Rod Gilmore/USFWS
- Greater Sage-Grouse photo: USFWS

- Former Board Member Emeritus — Dave Marshall (1926–2011)

**Committee Chairs**

- Board Affairs: John Osborn
- Conservation: Lynn Herrig
- Education: Kerri Kidaba
- Executive: David Mandell
- Finance: Candy Plant
- Membership & Development: Greg Krantz
- Membership: Beth Hill
- Sanctuary: Jennifer Miller
- Volunteer Council: Carol Gavens

**Staff**

- Executive Director: Meryl Radisch
- IT/Office Manager: Tammi Miller
- Development Director: Ann Takamoto
- Finance Manager: Xander Patterson
- Marketing Director: Pam Meyers
- Membership Development Assistant: Andie Amoure
- Community/Social Media Manager: Tinsley Hunsdorfer
- Education Director: Steve Robertson
- Adult Education Programs Manager: Steve Engel
- Camp Director/Director of Program Coordination: Dan Shremah
- Adult Education/Trav Leade: Dan van den Broek
- Environmental Educator: Tim Donner
- Environmental Educator: Laura Newton
- Elective Conservation Education Coordinator: Gladys Ruiz
- Urban Naturalist: Mike Hrick
- Conservation Director: Rob Sallinger
- Backyard Habitat Program Coordinator: Vicki West
- Conservation Associate: Michael Mardel
- Asian Conservation Program Manager: Joe Liebzeit
- Urban Conservationist: Tom Lott
- Ten Mile Sanctuary Manager: Paul Englander
- Volunteer Manager: Donna Sarville
- Restoration Director: Mark Fitzsimmons
- Wildlife Care Center Operations Manager: Lucy Campbell
- Wildlife Care Center Veterinarian: Deb Shaffer
- Nature Store Manager: Nancy Mattson
- Nature Store Assistant: Marilyn O'Grady
- Nature Store Civil: Sally Loomis
- Streaked Horned Lark: Rod Gilmore/USFWS
- Greater Sage-Grouse: USFWS
- Audubon Society of Portland is a member of Earth Star of Oregon. For more information, contact Earth Star of Oregon at 503-223-8951 or on the web at www.earthstar-oregon.org.