Audubon Summer Camp: Creating Connection

By Ian Abraham, Camp Director

Early each spring, long before the first camper arrives ready for an Audubon Summer, we host a two-week training for our seasonal staff of Environmental Educators, college-aged Interns, and high-school-aged Counselors and teach them how we run weeklong Portland Audubon Summer Camps. We focus on curriculum development, safety protocols, and first-aid training; work together to develop practices that ensure each program is as high quality, safe, and fun as possible and has a huge helping of natural history; and we work to ensure that each camp is experimental, inspirational, and science-based, with problem-solving and thought-provoking challenges presented daily. Whether we are developing new curriculum for our Audubon East Explorers (new east Portland expansion, see page 7) or redeveloping popular trips like All the Way to Monterey or Destination: Redwoods (page 7), the quality of the program begins and ends with Environmental Educators and their focused intention to inspire students of all ages.

During training, our Environmental Educators focus on the themes of their week-long camps to develop schedules and activities that enhance the personal character and growth of each participant, and they discuss, share, and develop new and exciting ways to connect Audubon campers to the natural world. This brainstorming enables us to create the most inspiring programs possible, and the teamwork and camaraderie that results is, in many ways, the backbone of our high-quality programs.

During these curriculum days, we discuss the effects that journaling activities might have on campers. We start our training with these activities to inspire our educators to not only journal for themselves, but to use journaling in their camps. By using reflective writing activities and/or drawings with different art mediums (depending on their camps). By using reflective writing activities and/or drawings with different art mediums (depending on their camps).

In order for them to capture the day’s happenings. These journals help campers preserve their memories for a lifetime.

An Audubon Environmental Educator must consider how children feel about themselves and their time in nature to ensure positive memories — how students feel about their experiences during and after the program affects what they do with what they’ve learned. If campers feel safe and comfortable in the forest while at camp, they are much more likely to return to the woods of their own accord. We help each student build real and meaningful relationships with the natural world. Simply put, we want children to be fond of nature, not afraid of it. If successful, we accomplish Audubon’s larger vision to inspire people to love and protect nature.

For one writing activity, I gave the campers a start. I recognize that Orcas are special, and if I had one story to tell them... The goal was for them to write as much as they could in fifteen minutes. The following was written during an Audubon camp in the San Juan Islands just hours after a sighting of about 22 Orcas moving through the Salish Sea. We thank Reed for sharing his journal entry.

An Orca’s Tale

By Reed Wester-Ebbinghaus

Seventh Grade

I recognize that Orcas are special, and if I had one story to tell them... It would be that of the history of humanity, a story very appropriate to tell due to their likeness to men. I would tell tales of how humans had created powerful empires but were still always at the mercy of the seas. I would explain the story of the city of Atlantis and of how it was so suddenly destroyed the night the seas rushed in and reclaimed the land and the lives of many men. I would even tell of how...

Continued on page 10

Comment on the Portland Harbor Superfund Clean-up Plan

Portland is known as a green city, but its dirty little secret is that both its air and water are highly polluted. Air toxics have been in the news recently, but residents will also soon have an opportunity to comment on a proposed clean-up plan in May and adopt a final clean-up plan by year’s end. The EPA is expected to launch a 60-day public-comment period on a proposed clean-up plan in May and adopt a final clean-up plan by year’s end. The EPA has been under tremendous pressure from polluters who want to minimize clean-up costs, and preliminary signs are troubling— the EPA has indicated that it plans to leave up to 50% of the Superfund site contaminated under what we consider a “do nothing” strategy, where contamination is left in place to be buried under other sediments or flushed downstream. Nobody living in Portland today has known anything other than a toxic river, and the strategy being proposed by the EPA is likely to leave our river contaminated for generations to come.

Sixty days is far too short a public-comment period for an issue this complex and this important. We are particularly disappointed in the City of Portland — it has joined with other parties responsible for the pollution in a pattern of working to delay and disrupt this process and intimidate the EPA into adopting a plan that puts the interests of polluters above the health and safety of our community and our environment. Audubon will be requesting a longer comment period, but regardless of length, it will be critical that the people of Portland send comments directly to the EPA and demand a healthy and safe river. Clean air and clean water are basic rights, not things to be compromised to serve the financial interests of polluters.

Please speak up for our river! To receive updates on how to get involved, go to http://bit.ly/DQgmGsm
From our Executive Director

“Tree Breath”

My wife and I celebrated eleven years of marriage yesterday by taking a long, evening hike in Forest Park. Unencumbered by kids or technology, we wanted to reconnect with each other and the wilderness that brought us together a dozen years before.

Back then, we both had conservation jobs at the Grand Canyon. Karen had invited me on a trip to Portland to meet her parents, see her hometown, and experience the beauty of Oregon. She also brought me for one of my first hikes in a temperate rainforest. I can vividly recall her inhaling deeply and asking, “Can you smell that? That’s the scent of Oregon woods... I just love that!” Having come from the desert, the air seemed thick with moisture, with oxygen, with health. We named that scent “tree breath” and imagined uprooting ourselves from the desert to Portland.

I fell further in love with Karen, and also with Portland. Here, I sensed beautiful nature as well as community, and a need for conservation that exceeded the gateway Park Service communities I’d seen. Within six months, Karen and I were all-in: engaged to be married, resigned from our jobs, and loaded on a truck for Portland.

Twelve years have passed, and I still find Portland’s nature, sense of community, and need for conservation more compelling than ever. In this issue of the Warbler, you’ll learn how your voice is needed now to restore the Willamette River from a century of toxic waste dumping, as well as to stop the senseless killing of thousands of cormorants. You’ll find our call for participants and donors for Birdathon, our largest fundraising event of the year. And you can take pride in our latest success—Portland Audubon’s instrumental role protecting critical floodplain habitat for birds through a successful lawsuit that could have ripple effects for birds and their habitat nationwide.

We hope the stories of the Warbler capture the vitality of your Portland Audubon community. Like an anniversary hike in the woods, its inspiration awaits us whenever we take part. If a Warbler article inspires you to engage further in the enjoyment and protection of nature, then it will have achieved its purpose. Enjoy the “tree breath” that we protect together.

There’s still time to sign!

Signature collection continues to qualify Outdoor School for All for the statewide ballot in November. Here’s volunteer Harriet Anderson handing in 50 signatures she collected. Learn more on our website, audubonportland.org.

30th Annual Great Blue Heron Week
June 1–June 12, 2016
By Mike Houck, Urban Naturalist

Anyone who knows former Mayor Bud Clark will not be surprised that it was during his tenure (1985–1992) that Portland adopted the Great Blue Heron as its official bird. An avid canoist and cyclist, Bud commuted to work by bicycle and still rides on our annual policy-makers bicycle ride at a spry 85 years young.

In the spring of 1886 Mayor Clark’s address at a West Coast gathering of fish and wildlife agencies was replete with references to his encounters with Great Blue Herons. His enthusiasm was clear as he waxed poetic about watching them glide by Portland’s downtown skyscrapers as they flew back and forth and become suddenly a life out of their loneliness for each other. From beginners to experts, from simple melodies to complex trills to simple harmonics, the range of vocalization charms and astounds us. How do birds produce such beautiful songs and complex harmonics? And why do they produce so many different types of vocalization?

At May’s Nature Night, naturalist and author David Lukas will help answer these questions and share some insights into the magical world of bird song. Using audio recordings, photos, and video, he’ll provide fascinating information about the anatomy of how birds produce song; the ways we study bird song; and some of the social behaviors that explain common bird vocalization.

David Lukas is a professional naturalist and well-known author. His connection to nature started as a child growing up on the Oregon Coast and as a high-school student exploring the natural world right here at Portland Audubon. A graduate of Reed College, David spent many years using the Bay Area as home base while traveling, exploring, and leading tours to wild areas around the world. He recently returned to Portland. His many books include the definitive guidebooks Bay Area Birds, Sierra Nevada Birds, and Sierra Natural History. His newest book is called Language Making Nature, which explores the art of creating new words for speaking of the natural world. Learn more at LanguageMakingNature.com. David’s books will be available for sale in the Nature Store and for signing after the talk.

Join us in the mysterious world of bird song just in time for the prime singing season!

Bird Song Walks 2016
7 a.m. Mon–Fri, various locations: FREE!

udubon Society of Portland is proud to sponsor the 2016 season of weekday-morning Bird Song Walks! From beginners to advanced birders, anyone who is fascinated by the sounds of birds should take advantage of these volunteer-guided walks to the metro area’s prime spring migration hotspots.

Bird Song Walks begin at 7 a.m. No pre-registration required. Leave whenever you like. Being birders can and should guide, and be sure to dress properly for the weather: Spring mornings can be surprisingly chilly.

Try taking the bus if available. Go to trimet.org or call 503-238-RIDE (7433) for route information. For natural history information, maps, and directions for these natural areas, see the latest edition of Wild in the City: Exploring the Internet, available at Portland Audubon’s Nature Store. Websites are provided here for each locale.
Bring binoculars and dress for the weather — beginners welcome!

Mostly weekend excursions

Sign-up needed

$ Fee involved

May 1 (Sun), 7am–2pm
Northern Coast Range Sooty Grouse
Join Stefan Schilke for a Sooty Grouse search trip in the northern Coast Range beginning in Banks. We will also look for Northwestern Crow, Western Scrub-Jay, other resident birds, and newly arrived spring migrants. Prepare for cool, possibly inclement weather and wear sturdy boots. We may be hiking steep trails for up to 1 mile. Limited to 12 participants. Registration required with Stefan at greenfairy@hotmail.com.

May 2 (Mon), 7am–2pm
Columbia Slough
Join Marilyn Abden, Karen Chavoe, and Dena Turner for birding in the Columbia County Slough and at several water treatment plants. We will look for spring migrants who are singing and settling into territories. Meet on Sauvie Island in the TriMet Park and Ride lot. Please plan to carpool and drive about 40 miles round trip. A $3 parking fee required for the Port of St. Helens. Limited to 18 participants.

Registration required with Marilyn at abdenm@uoregon.edu or Dena at denaturm62@gmail.com.

May 3 (Tues), 7:30am–12:30pm
Conboy Lake NWR
Join Mary Ratcliff, Bonnie Denke, and Ross Martin for a trip to Conboy Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Washington. We will bird the wetlands and farmlands adjacent to the lake. Registration required with Mary Ratcliff at pittockmansion.org. More information, including carpooling, will be sent after you have registered.

May 4 (Fri), 7am–9:30am
Powell Butte Nature Park
Join Ron Escano and Karen Chavoe for a spring migration birding trip in the Powell Butte Nature Park. We will see a variety of spring migrants on this all-day trip. Registration required with Ron Escano (503-771-3454) for details and to reserve a spot on this trip.

May 7 (Sat), 8am–1am
Larch Mountain
Join Tim Selmerud as we explore montane habitats in eastern Multnomah County looking for such interesting species as Gray Jay, Hermit and other warblers, and listening for booming Sooty Grouse. We’ll meet at the Troutdale Outlet Mall at 8am. Dress for weather, beginners welcome. Registration encouraged. Call Tim at 971-221-2534 with questions and to sign up.

May 7 (Sat), 8am–11am
Tualatin River NWR
Bring binoculars and dress for weather. The seasonal trails have just opened, so it’s time to look for springtime birds on that part of the refuge. We’ll have a good chance to see shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors, and migrant songbirds. We will also view the resident Bald Eagles’ new nest to see if there are any eaglets. Meet leader Barbara Allen at the parking lot at the refuge’s Wildlife Center (92525 SW Pacific Hwy) 1/4 mile south of Sherwood on Hwy 99W. Questions: Barbara at 970-209-9289.

May 8 (Wed), 7am–10:30am
White River Oak Woodlands and Rimrock Country
Interested in exploring the unique oak woodland and basalt rock region of North Central Oregon? This is your chance to see Lewis’ Woodpecker, Ash Throated Flycatcher, Lazuli Bunting, Canyon Wren, and Golden Eagle. We will spend most of our time on the White River Wildlife Management Area around Tugyah Valley (south of The Dalles). We will leave the Troutdale Outlet Mall parking lot at 7am. Plan on an all-day adventure, not getting back to Troutdale until 4pm. Registration required. Call Ron Escano (503-771-3454) for details and to reserve a spot on this trip.

May 12 (Thurs), 8am–10:30am
Tualatin River NWR
The seasonal trails have just opened, so it’s time to look for springtime birds on that part of the refuge. We’ll have a good chance to see shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors, and migrant songbirds. We will also view the resident Bald Eagles’ new nest to see if there are any eaglets. Meet leader Barbara Allen at the parking lot at the refuge’s Wildlife Center (92525 SW Pacific Hwy) 1/4 mile south of Sherwood on Hwy 99W. Questions: Barbara at 970-209-9289.

May 17 and June 6
Leach Botanical Garden
Leader: Ron Escano
Meet in Leach Botanical Garden Admin Annex parking lot at 6550 SE 122nd Ave (NOT at the Garden Manor House). Go south on SE 122nd from Foster Rd for about a block and turn left into driveway of white building (looks like a house) just before 122nd veers right and down the hill. More at leachgarden.org.

May 12 (Thurs), 8am–10:30am
Tualatin River NWR
The seasonal trails have just opened, so it’s time to look for springtime birds on that part of the refuge. We’ll have a good chance to see shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors, and migrant songbirds. We will also view the resident Bald Eagles’ new nest to see if there are any eaglets. Meet leader Barbara Allen at the parking lot at the refuge’s Wildlife Center (92525 SW Pacific Hwy) 1/4 mile south of Sherwood on Hwy 99W. Questions: Barbara at 970-209-9289.

May 17 (Wed), All-day Trip
Join Karen Chavoe and Mary Ratcliff for an early May exploration of Ridgefield to look for migrants, waterfowl, and, with luck, Virginia Rail and Sora. We will walk the Oaks to Wetlands trail, then move to River S Unit and walk the Kswa Trail. Meet at 7:30am sharp at Cartyu (503-648-9178). Limited to 15 participants. Registration required with Karen at kchavoe@comcast.net or 503-241-1251.

May 19 (Thurs), 7:30am–1pm
Ridgefield NWR
Join Karen Chavoe and Mary Ratcliff for a spring migration birding trip in the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge. We will see a variety of birds from Greater Sandhill Crane to Calliope Hummingbird. Meet at Lewis & Clark State Park to start the 75-mile scenic trip. Take Exit 18 off I-84, turn south and watch for park entrance. Bring lunch and dress for Genwood, WA, weather. Limited to 14 participants. Registration required with Kathy at kathyfrans@ospunet.com. Call her at 503-233-7143 with questions.

May 25 (Sat), 7am–5pm
Lower Deschutes Butterfly Exploration
Learn the difference between swallowtails, whites, sulphurs, brushfooted, blues, skippers, and hummingbirds as we search for 15 or more species in the mountains, dry canyons, and riparian areas east of the Cascade along the lower Deschutes River. Dennis Deck and Dan van den Broek will help you find Anna’s Hummingbird, Gray Hairstreak, California Tortoiseshell, Mourning Cloak among others, while the insects are hill-topping, nectaring, and puddling. Limited to 14 participants. Registration required with Dan van den Broek at dvandenbroek@aubudonportland.org. More information, including carpooling, will be sent after you have registered.

May 27 (Sat), 8am–1pm
Mt. Hood Lakes
Join Kathy van der Horst and Karen Chavoe to search the beautiful slopes of Mt. Hood at Wildwood Metro Regional Park, Trillium Lake, and Little Crater Lake Meadows. We will depart at 8am from the Olive Garden restaurant (8700 SE Sunnyside Rd, at the Clackamas Promenade). Bring lunch and insect repellent. Be prepared to share one $5 parking fee. Limited to 16 participants. Registration required with Kathy at kathyfrans@ospunet.com. Call her at 503-233-7143 with questions.

June 6 (Sun), 7am–5pm
Pine Grove, Wasco County
Interested in exploring the unique habitats of western Wasco County? This is your chance to see Williamsson’s Sapsucker, Hermit Warbler, four species of hummingbird, and much more. We will leave Clackamas Town Center parking lot off Sunnyside Road (off I-205) at 7am. Plan on an all-day adventure, not getting back to Clackamas until after 5pm. Registration required. Call Ron Escano (503-771-3454) for details and to reserve a spot on this trip.

June 17 (Fri), 8:30am–11:30am
Camassia Clarks River
Join Karen Chavoe and Mary Ratcliff to look for birds among the beautiful Clarks River. We will meet in Estacada and carpool to two lovely spots to look for breeding birds that nest in the area. Meet in the parking lot at Mossy Rock gift shop at 8:30am (338 NW Broadway St, Estacada). Questions: email Mary at mratcliff@arcanet.com or Karen at kchavoe@comcast.net.

June 17, 2013
Fridays 5, 16, 23, 30
Camassia Preserve
Leader: Jackie Wilson
Drive 5 from Portland on I-90 (SW Marine Ave) through Lake Oswego to West Linn — OR Drive 5 from Portland on I-205 to West Linn Exit #8 and turn left at end of ramp and pass under I-205. Just before the gas station, turn right on Willamette Falls Dr, go up 1/2 block then left 90 degrees to Marys Trees Dr. Veer right in 1/4 mile onto Sunset Ave, still going uphill, cross I-205, and immediately turn right on Walnut St. The preserve is at the end of Walnut St. More at nature.org.
Audubon Lawsuit Delivers Significant New Protections for Oregon’s Floodplains

By Bob Sellinger, Conservation Director

Flooding is a natural and necessary part of the life cycle of floodplains, which perform many important functions. The area that is flooded during a flood event is called the floodplain. Floodplains provide critical ecosystem services such as water filtration, nutrient cycling, and habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals. They are also used for recreation, agriculture, and other activities.

In 2009, Portland Audubon and co-plaintiffs Northwest Environmental Defense Center, National Wildlife Federation, and the Association of Northwest Steelheaders represented by Earthjustice filed a lawsuit against FEMA alleging that FEMA had not consulted with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) as required by the Endangered Species Act. The case challenged the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA’s) flood insurance program in Oregon as it violated the Endangered Species Act by threatening the continued existence of protected species, including steelhead salmon and steelhead trout.

The case, Klamath Environ., Inc. v. Federal Emergency Management Agency (Klamath), challenged the continued use of the federal flood insurance program in Oregon as it threatened the continued existence of steelhead salmon and steelhead trout. The case found that FEMA’s flood insurance program in Oregon was not consistent with the Endangered Species Act and that FEMA had not consulted with NMFS as required by the act.

In 2016, Portland Audubon and Northwest Environmental Defense Center filed a lawsuit against the US Army Corps of Engineers and the US Department of Agriculture, alleging that the Corps had not completed a comprehensive conservation plan for the Klamath River Basin.

The suit, Portland Audubon Society v. US Army Corps of Engineers, alleges that the Corps has failed to complete a comprehensive conservation plan for the Klamath River Basin, which is home to the largest salmon population in the United States. The suit seeks to force the Corps to complete the plan, which includes measures to protect and restore salmon populations.

The suit is supported by a coalition of environmental and conservation groups, including the National Wildlife Federation, the Association of Northwest Steelheaders, and the Klamath Wildlife Foundation.

Comment on Klamath Wildlife Refuges Management Plans

In the next couple of months the public will have a critical opportunity to address chronic water shortages on the Klamath National Wildlife Refuges. Klamath Basin’s wetlands support some of the most important waterfowl habitat in the Western United States. An estimated 80% of Pacific Flyway waterfowl utilize the wetlands during their migratory journeys, and more than 260 species of birds have been observed on the refuges.

However, in recent years, wetlands in Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge have been allowed to completely dry. This situation has precipitated disease outbreaks that have resulted in the deaths of tens of thousands of birds, and millions more have not had their survival needs met as they pass through the Klamath Basin. A major source of the problem is that more than 22,000 acres of refuge land is leased for agribusiness and continues to receive water, even as the refuge wetlands go without water.

In 2014, Portland Audubon, WaterWatch, and Oregon Wild sued the US Fish and Wildlife Service to force it to complete Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCPs) for the Klamath Refuges. These plans were required to be completed for all federal refuges in the United States by October 2012, but the Klamath Refuges ignored this mandate. The court ruled in our favor, and the Klamath Refuges are required to complete their CCPs by August 1, 2016, just a few months away. The CCP will force the Klamath Refuges to make legally challengeable findings that the water allocations are compatible with the primary purpose of the refuge. We do not believe there is any way that the Fish and Wildlife Service can continue to justify the current water allocations.

We expect the draft CCP to be released for public comment any day in order to meet the August court-mandated deadline. It will be critical that the public weigh in strongly to ensure that lease-land waterfowl is phased out and limited refuge water is used for the primary purpose of the refuge, providing habitat for waterfowl. To get involved: http://audubonportland.org/issue/activities-form
Tough Time to be a Tree in Portland

By Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director

It should not be this difficult to protect a tree in a city as green as Portland.

Back in September of 2015, Mayor Charlie Hales dispatched his own chief of staff, Josh Alpert, to intervene when a developer threatened to cut down three Giant Sequoias in the mayor’s home neighborhood of Eastmoreland. Eventually a combination of protesters and political pressure resulted in the developer agreeing to sell the properties to the local community for approximately $800,000. One of Portland’s wealthiest and most well-canopied neighborhoods was able to retain three stunning trees nestled among blocks already renowned for their trees and greenspaces. At the time, the mayor’s spokesperson refused to release details of the circumstances under which the mayor might intervene on behalf of trees—they did not want to encourage “copcat” situations.

It has been downhill ever since, with the sound of chainsaws never far in the distance. This spring has seen a continual stream of bad tree proposals emerging from City Hall and city bureaus ever since. It has been literally a full-time job heading off the next proverbial chainsaw massacre. Watch for falling trees, particularly if you live in one of Portland’s lower-income neighborhoods.

Just a few examples:

The Eastmoreland Sequoia situation woke Portland up to the fact that our big trees have very little protection. The City responded to public outrage by initiating a process to establish interim protections for big trees until a full review of the City’s tree-protection code can be initiated. This year, the Portland City Council took an extra step to provide another layer of protection for the giant trees in Portland’s last remaining significant stand—Oregon's own trees.

Sometimes the answer isn’t so clear-cut. Back in early March we received a baby Great Horned Owl that had been found with its dead sibling and destroyed nest in Vancouver, Washington. The bird was soaked, cold, and in need of our help. While it isn’t uncommon to find young Great Horned Owls on the ground under their nest (they might get blown out, but they can climb back up!), this bird would have died of hypothermia if left alone. We warned the bird up gently and made sure nothing else was physically wrong with it before working on our plan: get the parents to continue caring for it. How, you might ask?

First, make sure the parents are still in the area. Later that day one of our volunteers located the nest (or at least where it had been) and attempted to spot the parents—they were both there. Great Horned Owls are such good parents that rehabilitators have been able to reunite owl parents with their babies (and in some cases even babies from other parents) after over a week of separation. Luckily it took only a couple of days to stabilize our little patient and get it back to the tree.

Second, scope out the area, find an appropriate place to put the baby back, and do so. The initial tree was close to a high-traffic area, but there were other suitable trees nearby. We placed the young bird on the highest branch we could reach and promptly left the area. Though we did not see the parents at this time, they had been spotted the day before.

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Wildlife Care Center

When Does a Young Animal Need Help?

By Lacy Campbell, Wildlife Care Center Operations Manager

One of the more common reasons we see young animals in the Wildlife Care Center isn’t because they are injured, it’s because they have been kidnapped by well-intentioned Good Samaritans. This mistake may mean the young animal can’t be reintroduced to the parent if they’ve been separated over 48 hours; the parent may get stressed from all the work involved. Sometimes the answer isn’t so clear-cut.

Does the animal have injuries?

Are its eyes open?

Is it a cat’s mouth? Is it actively bleeding?

The wildlife care center is open seven days a week. We treat only native injured or orphaned wildlife. For more information, please call us at 503-292-0304 or visit our website, audubonportland.org/wcc/about/nonnative.

Trees at Broadmoor Golf Course, happily no longer on the chopping block thanks to Audubon activists! Photo by Bob Sallinger from Portland Audubon, three commissioners—Fritz, Fish, and Novick—have now signaled that they will not support this amendment, but it required a massive outsourcing of community opposition to get there.

In May and June, the City will take up consideration of the Central City Plan. This plan, developed by the Bureau of Planning and (not so) Sustainable Development, takes the city’s newfound fear of trees to a new level of absurdity. It provides exemptions for river industry from tree-planting requirements along the river based on unsubstatiated industry assertions that trees heighten the risk of terrorism. It also eliminates requirements to plant trees in all seven of the designated habitat-restoration sites found in the central city based on the Bureau’s belief that the public would prefer a barren, canopy-free environment when it enjoys the Willamette at Riverside natural areas.

Sadly, the list goes on. We have already called on you, our membership, to push back on several misguided tree initiatives. In the coming months it will continue to be critical that people in Portland speak out on behalf of our trees and let our political leaders know that we want strong policies to protect our urban canopy.
Educational Trips

These trips are popular. We recommend that you book early. Trip deposit required to secure your place on the trip. To register, visit our website at audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult and follow the registration link.

UGANDA …THE PEARL OF AFRICA

February 25–March 10, 2017

Join us on this 14-day tour of one of the most environmentally rich and diverse countries in Africa. Uganda is a true tropical nation, possessing a moist climate and lush, verdant forests abounding with life. Located between the rainforests of West Africa, the savannahs of East Africa, and the arid desert of the north, Uganda is in a transitional zone, and as such, its avian diversity is greatly enhanced.

With over 1,000 species of birds, a full 10% of which are regionally endemic, Uganda is sure to thrill both the novice and advanced birder alike. We'll fly into Entebbe then head for the southwestern region of the country, where wetlands are plentiful, and our chances are good of seeing such birds as the Great Blue Turaco, Pink-backed Pelican and the highly coveted Shoebill. We'll bird Lake Miburo by boat in hopes of spotting the African Finfoot, the Red-faced Barbet and the massive Black-bellied Bustard. Over the next several days we'll bird Mubwindi Swamp, Budongo Forest Reserve, National Park, farmland and birchcatchers around the world. We'll keep an eye out for the Bar-tailed Trogon, the Blue-bearded Mannikin, a myriad of warblers, and if lucky, the Pink-footed Puffbird.

Though birds will be a large focus, our trip to Africa will yield sightings of many mammals as well, including Zebra, Giraffe, Elephant and possibly even Lion and the elusive Leopard. Uganda is also home to no less than 10 species of primates, and we will spend time searching for these amazing animals. The Olive Baboon, Vervet Monkey and the Blue Monkey are sure to make their presence known, and we will do our best to find the beautiful Black and White Colobus Monkey. Finally, no trip is complete without searching for Great Apes, and we will traverse the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest in hopes of locating a troop of wild Chimpanzees, and of course, the rare, gentle, Mountain Gorilla. Please contact Steve Robertson at srobertson@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6118 if you are interested in participating or have further questions.

Leader: Steve Robertson, Education Director
Fee: $6955 members / $7055 non-members
Deposit: $2800 required to secure your place

BHUTAN

February 23–March 10, 2017

Experience the mystical kingdom of Bhutan this February! Though birds will be a large focus, this trip is designed to thrill the avid birder and novice alike. Bhutan is one of the most spectacular natural areas. Rising to almost 10,000 feet in the southeast corner of the state, this massive fault block presides over alpine deserts, oceans of sagebrush, and the wildlife-rich marshlands of the Malheur basin. From our base in Frenchglen we'll explore this diverse landscape as we venture out on short hikes and on top of the mountain itself. On past trips we've seen approximately 80 species of birds, including Townsend's Solitaire, Mountain Bluebird, American Pipit, Horned Lark, Golden Eagle, and Prairie Falcon. We'll visit the Adjutant Desert and venture out to Borax Lake, home of the unique and endangered Borax Lake Chub. Contact Eric Scheuringer at escheuringer@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6119 for more information.

Leader: Steve Robertson, Education Director, and local guides
Fee: $4855 members / $5055 non-members
Deposit: $400 required to secure your place

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

April 28–May 8, 2017

With a lush, tropical climate, the twin island country of Trinidad & Tobago boasts the greatest avian diversity of any island country in the Caribbean—over 400 species, including Scarlet Dis, Red-breasted Blackbird, and Blue-crowned Motmot. We will spend three nights at Asa Wright Nature Centre, then visit the valley such as Berrynile Hummingbirds, Red Warbler and Chestnut-sided Shrike Vireo, and then visit arctic villages, Ingram for their handwoven textiles. These excursions will lead us through different elevations from pine/oak forest to humid cloud forest, and we'll encounter local species such as Dwarf Jay, Aztec Thrush and Collared Towhee along the way.

Finally, the trip continues to the west and the Sierra Madre del Sur and on to Puerto Escondido and the Pacific coast. We'll be on the lookout for species like the Collared Forest Falcon, Pheasant Cuckoo, Emerald Toucanet, White-throated Magpie-Jay and Orange-breasted Buntings. Contact Eric Scheuringer at escheuringer@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6119 for more information.

Leader: Eric Scheuringer, Adult Education Programs Manager & Candace Larson, Portland Audubon Trip Leader
Tentative Fee: $3195* members / $3495* non-members
Deposit: $1500 required to secure your place

SOUTHWEST OREGON: ROGUE RIVER & SISKIYOU MOUNTAINS

June 2–5, 2016

This trip explores the natural history of the beautiful Rogue River watershed and the Siskiyou Mountains. The Rogue and its tributaries cut through the forested canyons of southwestern all of Oregon, providing glimpses into the region's geologic history. Further south, the Siskiyou Mountains straddle the Oregon-California border, marking a transition between ecoregions to the north and south. On short hikes and easy walks we'll focus on trees, wildflowers, reptiles and amphibians, butterflies and other insects, and geology. And as always, we'll watch for birds! Contact Eric Scheuringer at escheuringer@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6119 for more information.

Leader: Dr. Ivan Phillipson, Portland Audubon Trip Leader
Fee: $555* members / $565* non-members
Deposit: $300 required to secure your place

OAXACA, MEXICO

December 9–18, 2016

Oaxaca straddles the biological border separating the ranges of northern temperate and tropical birds and as a result is home to well over 600 species! In addition to its rich bird life, Oaxaca is renowned for its colorful markets, vibrant native cultures, and its relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

Our trip begins in Oaxaca City, located in a large inter-mountain valley at five-thousand feet elevation; it basks in a balmy, spring-like climate year-round. In the morning, we'll search for specialty birds of the valley such as the famous Black and White Colobus Monkey, in search of the unique and endangered Squirrel Monkey. We will spend three nights at Asa Wright Nature Centre, then visit the valley such as Berrynile Hummingbirds, Red Warbler and Chestnut-sided Shrike Vireo, and then visit arctic villages, Ingram for their handwoven textiles. These excursions will lead us through different elevations from pine/oak forest to humid cloud forest, and we'll encounter local species such as Dwarf Jay, Aztec Thrush and Collared Towhee along the way.

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Leader: Steve Robertson, Education Director, and local guides
Fee: $1995* member / $2195* non-member (Tasmania pre-trip)
Deposit: $400 required to secure your place

AUSTRALIA!

November 12–23, 2016

This trip explores the natural history of the beautiful Rogue River watershed and the Siskiyou Mountains. The Rogue and its tributaries cut through the forested canyons of southwestern all of Oregon, providing glimpses into the region's geologic history. Further south, the Siskiyou Mountains straddle the Oregon-California border, marking a transition between ecoregions to the north and south. On short hikes and easy walks we'll focus on trees, wildflowers, reptiles and amphibians, butterflies and other insects, and geology. And as always, we'll watch for birds! Contact Eric Scheuringer at escheuringer@audubonportland.org or 971-222-6119 for more information.

Leaders: Patty Newland & Candace Larson, Portland Audubon Trip Leaders
Fee: $845 members / $1045 non-members
Deposit: $400 required to secure your place

Deposit: $1500 required to secure your place
Summer Camp 2016 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.

Grades 6th–8th

**Destination: Redwoods**
**Week 6: July 24–29 (Overnight Sun–Fri)**
Hidden coves and mysterious forests await as we explore the lesser-known shores of Southern Oregon and the awesome stands of Giant Redwoods in California’s Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. Campers on this unforgettable six-day camping adventure led by experienced Naturalists will travel to California to experience the magnificence of the huge Redwoods and investigate the unique ecosystems of this ancient forest.

Fee: $430 members/ $450 non-members
Trip Leader: Laura Newton, Naturalist-Educator

**Audubon East Explorers**
Audubon Society of Portland Environmental Educators are excited for their first year of offering fun, week-long summer camps on Portland's east side!

**Grades 4th–5th**

**Wild in the City**
**July 5–8**
Drawing from the pages of Wild in the City: A Guide to Portland’s Natural Areas, we will explore unique and surprising places in one of the nation’s most livable cities. We'll search out the city in search of urban greenspaces and wildlife. This camper-directed week is sure to amaze and inspire even the most savvy of urban naturalist travelers.

Fee: $295 members/ $315 non-members

**Grades 2nd–3rd**

**Let’s Go Birding**
**July 11–15**
Learn how to identify and appreciate the wonderful, colorful birds that call Portland home. Spend time learning how to use binoculars to search out our feathered friends, and build your own bird feeder to take home and attract them to your own yard. Take time with your new flock to create various art projects to complement your new bird knowledge!

Fee: $285 members/ $315 non-members

**Grades 1st–2nd**

**Jr. Audubon Ranger**
**July 18–22**
Learn to be a quiet presence in the forest as we sneak about and discover the secrets of local plants and animals. Hear the amazing history of your local forest, and become an expert on how to stay safe in the outdoors. If you love playing outside, learning about nature, and helping animals, this adventurous camp is for you!

Fee: $295 members/ $315 non-members

Grades 9th–12th

**All the Way to Monterey**
**Week 7: July 30–Aug 5 (Overnight Sat–Fri)**
Join us on this trip of a lifetime to explore California’s spectacular coastline and the marine biology of Monterey Bay! We will fly to San Jose, drive down the coast to Monterey, tour the deservedly world-famous Monterey Bay Aquarium, and spend the first night sleeping next to their Open Sea aquarium. This amazing facility is perched right where land meets sea, overseeing an impressive array of tide pools.

We will venture into the bay on the Aquarium’s 65-foot scientific research vessel and observe the Seals and their knowledge of marine biology.

Travel note: Portland Audubon utilizes the services of Nob Hill Travel, and they will assist with securing airfare for this trip. All students and staff will be traveling on the same flights to ensure supervision and safety at all times. You will receive details on the specific flights we will be taking, airline, etc. upon registration.

**Field Trips:** $295 members/ $315 non-members

Trip Leaders: Ian Abraham, Camp Director, & Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator

*Includes all meals, lodging, land transportation, and guide fees.*

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Fee: $430 members/ $450 non-members
Trip Leader: Laura Newton, Naturalist-Educator

**The World of Birds 2016**

The World of Birds is back! Audubon Society of Portland’s comprehensive program is for birders who want to increase their ID skills and their knowledge about birds. With new subjects offered each season, you can learn about taxonomy, migration, breeding behavior, avian physiology, feathers, plumage, and more over the course of a year. Take your skills and knowledge to the next level!

**Introduction to the World of Birds**
**Classes: July 7, 14, (Thurs), 19 (Tues), 6:30pm–8:30 pm**
Field Trips: July 10, 17, 24, (Sun). Trips are two half-day and one full-day, destinations and carpooling TBD.

Learn some of the fundamentals of birding from the field guide to field craft. We will explore a holistic approach to bird identification and help you to build observation skills and get the most from your field experience.

Fee: $180 Limited to 16 participants.

**Ocean Shores, Washington**
**Class: Aug 17 (Wed), 6:30pm–8:30 pm**
**Field Trips: Aug 19–21 (Overnight, Fri–Sun)**
Join us on this trip to one of the West Coast’s birding hotspots, where you can expect to see a bevy of shorebirds and seabirds. A two-hour class on some of the species we hope to encounter will prepare you to get the most out of the adventure.

Fee: $330, includes transportation and lodging

Register online at audubonportland.org/trips-classes-camps/adult/classes. For more information contact instructor Dan van den Broek at 971-222-6105 or dvandenbroek@audubonportland.org.

**Sketching Birds and Their Surroundings: Easy Ways to Capture the Essence!**
**Jun 11 (Sat), 10am–3pm: Class in Heron Hall**
Artist and author Jude Siegel provides simple approaches for anyone who likes birds and wants to record them easily on paper! Along with some writing, try different ways to capture the gesture, or pose, explore “less is more” with your drawings, and play with a little paint to add some color, as you place your bird in its environment. We will use pen, graphite, and watercolor, simply and effectively, to create a handmade record of your love of birds! No art experience needed.

Fee: $45 members/ $65 non-members
Limited to 16 participants.

**Warblers & Flycatchers**
**May 6 (Fri), 7pm–9pm:**
**Class in Heron Hall**
May 7 (Sat), 7am–11am:**
**Local Field Trip**

This class will focus on two groups notorious for giving birdwatchers a stiff neck and a bewildered stare: warblers and flycatchers. Local author and guide John Rakestraw will show you how to identify these birds by sight and sound as well as posture and performance. The field trip will visit a local migrant hotspot to solidify your new skills.

Class with Field Trip FULL WITH WAITLIST
Class-only Option: $14

**Nature Journaling: Add Birds to Your Pages!**
**May 21 (Sat), 10am–3pm:**
**Class in Heron Hall**

Explore ways to add birds to your nature journal with Jude Siegel. Easy ways to see and get the essence of that bird! A combination of drawing techniques, simple watercolor, and writing, plus other fun ways to create a unique and interesting journal page! Add to your birding experience with a handmade record. No art experience required, just enthusiasm and willingness.

Fee: $45 members/ $65 non-members
Limited to 16 participants.

**Portland’s Natural Areas**
Hidden in the city and just a short drive away are unique and surprising places that will amaze and inspire even the most savvy of urban naturalist travelers. Join us on this trip of a lifetime to explore California’s remarkable coastline, the marine biology of Monterey Bay, and the historic missions of Monterey Peninsula.

Travel to California and visit the Monterey Bay Aquarium on a 65’ research vessel while reviewing the amazing biodiversity that exists right in your own back yard. You will observe playful sea otters, huge Monterey Bay Aquarium, and spend the first night sleeping next to their Open Sea aquarium. This amazing facility is perched right where land meets sea, overlooking an impressive array of tide pools.

We will venture into the bay on the Aquarium’s 65-foot scientific research vessel and observe the Seals and their knowledge of marine biology.

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**Field Trips:** $295 members/ $315 non-members

Trip Leaders: Ian Abraham, Camp Director, & Tim Donner, Naturalist-Educator

*Includes all meals, lodging, land transportation, and guide fees.*

**Audubon East Explorers**
Audubon Society of Portland Environmental Educators are excited for their first year of offering fun, week-long summer camps on Portland’s east side.

**Portland Arthur Academy**, 7507 SE Yamhill, Suite B, Portland, OR 97215
Programs run 8:45 am to 4:15 pm daily.

www.audubonportland.org

MAY/JUNE 2016
Field Notes
by Harry Nehls

Birds extend their breeding ranges usually because acceptable habitat is open and available, and internal pressure from high population levels encourage individuals to move away from established population centers. One recent example has been the continuing range expansion of the Barred Owl.

Originally, the range of this owl was completely east of the Rocky Mountains. In August 1943 one was seen in northern British Columbia. During the summer of 1946 a pair nested in central British Columbia. By 1966 the species had reached the British Columbia coast. Since 1971 it has rapidly increased throughout the province.

The first Washington state record was on October 2, 1965, from Pend Oreille County in the northeastern corner of the state. Another was found October 15, 1968, near Spokane. Since 1973 there has been a steady increase throughout the state. The first Washington nesting record was in 1974.

The first Oregon records were during the summer of 1974 when nesting pairs were found near Troy and Pendleton, both in the northeastern corner of the state. Since 1973 they have moved into all parts of the state, reaching just north of the California border near Klamath Falls by 1981.

Sightings

Migrant Tree Swallows began arriving in the Portland area February 9. Randy Hill reported 200 at Ridgefield NWR February 17. Nick Mrvels spotted a Violet-green Swallow among a flock at the Sandy River Delta February 21. Two were at Steigerwald NWR February 20. The main movement arrived a few days later. Randy Hill saw an early Barn Swallow at Steigerwald NWR February 20. The main movement arrived and ended during late March along with some Rough-winged Swallows. Wink Gross and Mark Greenfield found a group of Purple Martins on Oak Island on Sauvie Island March 28. Craig Tumer reported a New’s Swift April 3 among a swallow swarm over the Koll Center Wetlands in Beaverton.

There were no major movements of warblers until the last week of March when there was an increase in Yellow-rumped Warblers along with many Orange-crowned Warblers. On March 27 David Lantz reported a good number of Orange-crowns on Cooper Mountain. On March 21 Doug Craig saw an early Black-throated Gray Warbler at the Tualatin NWR. Common Yellowthroats arrived in all areas around March 25.

Dottie Belknap and Dwight Porter reported an early movement of Sandhill Cranes over southwest Portland February 21. Chris Bennett noted 40 over Westmoreland February 24 along the Columbia River, and toward Sauvie Island. Randy Hill reported that a group of 40 Trumpeter Swans wintered on the Carty Unit of Ridgefield NWR this year. They were apparently the source of those seen on Sauvie Island from time to time.

A Ross’s Goose remained at Meldrum Bar Park in Gladstone through early February for many to see. On February 26 Brad Bogan saw one on Sauvie Island. Beverley Hallberg spotted a distinctive Tufted Duck among a scap flock on the Columbia River off the Sandy River Delta April 1. Gerry Ellis saw a White-winged Scoter arrive from 200 miles February 21.

Randy Hill reported an early Caspian Tern at Ridgefield NWR April 1 and an elusive Burrowing Owl at Steigerwald NWR in late March. On March 19 Kathy van der Horst reported the first occupied Great-needled Owl nest of the season on Sauvie Island. Up to four Mountain Bluebirds were reported this spring at Powell Butte Park in Gresham. A few Western Bluebirds were also in the area.

Two Say’s Phoebes were observed at Powell Butte Park during late March, suggesting possible nesting. Two Black Phoebes on Sauvie Island April 2 also suggested nesting.

On February 10 Erica Edwards photographed a bright Hooded Oriole at her southwest Portland feeders. On February 16 egglaid Sylva Madding spotted a female Tricolored Blackbird at her southwest Portland feeders. On February 26 David Lantz reported a family group in the residential Laurelhurst neighborhood of northeast Portland.

On October 18, 1995, a Barred Owl spent the day sitting in a tree in front of the Multnomah County Central Library in downtown Portland. It appeared to be interested in the gathering crowd as the crowd was in it. The species has been regularly reported in the Portland Metro area each year since. On September 18, 1998, Jeff Gulligan observed a family group in the residential Laurelhurst neighborhood of northeast Portland.

Barred Owls can be aggressive comparative to the other owl species that live in the Portland area. Occasionally they will dive at and even strike humans who wander into their nesting territory. The arrival of Barred Owls has also been controversial due to their impact on federally threatened Northern Spotted Owls and the Fish and Wildlife Service’s experimental program to control Barred Owls in some areas of the Spotted Owl’s range. Additional information about Barred Owls and Audubon’s position on the federal control program can be found on our website.

Thank You to:
- Barran Liebman LLP for legal services
- Cameron Winery for two cases of Willamette Valley Chardonnay for member events
- Jen Cruce for 28 frames of professional wildlife photographs of various sizes
- Ann Littlewood for 36 native plants for the Sanctuary
- Ginno Ross for 20 heating pads for the Wildlife Care Center

Our Wish List
For Conservation:
- Recreational Vehicle or Travel Camper in good condition for field work
- Small motor boat and trailer
- 4x4 foot exterior grade plywood
- Digital Video Camera

For Sanctuary:
- Loppers
- Pruning saws
- Work gloves
- Exterminator
- Washable work gloves
- Keel animal handling gloves

If you can donate these items, please first contact Audubon Society of Portland at 503-292-6885 ext. 102, Mon-Fri, to arrange a time for delivery/pick-up.
A Flock of New Bird Books!

The spring migration season has brought a great flock of new bird books into the Nature Store. We’re featuring some particularly noteworthy titles here, but please drop by the store to see the full assortment. We’re also happy to take your phone orders, so give us a call at (503) 292-9453 if you have questions or would like a book mailed to you. Your member discount applies to any of the list prices shown below.

The long-awaited second edition of David Sibley’s Eastern and Western regional guides are now available. With fully up-to-date taxonomic information and range maps, and Sibley’s famously detailed illustrations, these are essential for the birder’s library. The list price for either guide is $39.95.

It’s back! The Backyard Birder’s Guide: Western North America by Donald Kroodsma (Cornell Labs, $34.95) is now back in print. This wildly popular title was unavailable for several years, so we’re delighted to again have stock on hand. The book combines a push-button sound unit with illustrations and test descriptions of over 70 species of favorite birds of the western region. A version for the eastern United States is also available.

British ornithologist Tim Birkhead describes The Most Perfect Thing Inside (and Outside) of a Bird’s Egg (Bloomsbury, $27.00), looking at fascinating aspects of bird reproduction. His previous work, Bird Sex, was a popular title in the Nature Store. Prominent birding authors Julie Zickefoose and Bernd Heinrich both have new works describing the fascinating lives of common birds. Zickefoose captures the development cycle of nestlings in Baby Birds: An Artist’s Guide to the Nest (2016). Heinrich considers One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $28.00). Both books include wonderful illustrations from their authors.

Going from the commonplace to the extremely exotic, South African writer Vernon Head tells the tale of The Kindest Bird in the World: The Search for the Necklace Nightjar (Penguin Books, $20.95), a bird so elusive it may only exist as a wing specimen.

Science writer Jennifer Ackerman looks at the unique nature of bird intelligence in The Genies of Birds (Penguin Press, $28.00), bringing many scientists’ recent research on physiology and behavior into a compelling narrative about how birds perceive the world.

Pete Dunne’s latest collection of essays is called Bird Droppings: Writings About Watching Birds and Bird Watchers (Stackpole Books, $16.95). Consisting of 35 brief pieces, many of them humorous, Dunne sums up both the joys and frustrations of bird watching. You and your favorite birding friends may well recognize these situations.

It is for Hawk, by Helen Macdonald (Grove Press, $16.00), is now available in paperback. A bestseller in hardcover, it was named one of the 10 Best Books of 2015 by The New York Times.

We are blessed with wonderful woodpecker habitat here in the Northwest, especially in Central Oregon, where Bend resident Stephen Shunk is an expert on these iconic woodland birds. His new book, Peterson Reference Guide to Woodpeckers of North America (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $35.00) is a complete guide to North America’s 23 species, with extensive photographs and illustrations to accompany Shunk’s text.

Rite in the Rain Birder’s Journal Rite in the Rain is the original waterproof, field-tested journal from Tacoma, Washington. The 4” x 7” Birder’s Journal is designed specifically with birders in mind, with a handy anatomical reference on the front inside cover and unique page layout to accommodate trip notes and sketches. In addition, the Nature Store carries Rite in the Rain field notebooks, memo pads, and waterproof pens.

Nesting Materials No nest is complete without the appropriate nesting materials. Many species, including chickadees and mudnests, prefer a layer of wood shavings on the bottom of their nest box. We carry wood shavings that have been screened of fine dust and are naturally soft and absorbent. Most birds are bedding opportunists and will collect a variety of soft fibrous materials to line their nests.

Our Hummer Helper and Birdie Bedding Buddies are made from natural, untreated fibers, including alpaca hair, beloved by hummingbirds, finches, bushtits, and more. Even if you don’t have space for a nest box, you can still witness bird activity by hanging one of these within sight during nesting season.

Cards and Gifts for Moms & Dads Mother’s Day is May 8th and Father’s Day follows on June 19th! Let the Nature Store help you out, whoever you’re shopping for this spring. We’ve got cards to show your appreciation and gifts to suit almost any interest. Choose from our wide selection of jewelry, bird feeders, native plants, books, and other goodies.

Infant Tees and Onesies Inspired by beauty, comfort, and simplicity, Luna clothing is designed and made in Portland, Oregon, by Karina Potestio. Growing up in Guatemala, Karina learned to sew by reconstructing her clothes to see how they were made. After moving to Oregon, she started sewing skirts for her children, giving sewn items as presents, and taking custom orders for her friends. Now her clothing is carried in shops around Portland, including the Nature Store! Her infant tees and onesies are crushy soft and made of 100% cotton. They retail for $24.00 ($21.60 for members).

In the Department of Archieal Technology, we chanced upon a small stash of Familiar Bird Songs of the Northwest. James Davis’s cassette produced by Portland Audubon last century. There is nothing else like this valuable local resource, so if you still have a cassette player, consider picking one up for the very reasonable price of $5.00, while supplies last.

Nature Store Highlights

The Portland Audubon Nature Store will participate in the national celebration of Children’s Book Week with an afternoon of nature storytelling and activities on Saturday, May 7 from 12:30 to 2:00, as well as special features on featured children’s books throughout the week.

We’ll have additional storytime events scheduled for the first and third Saturday of each month. These Saturday storytime programs will be available for families with small children through the summer. Come visit us on the first and third Saturday of each month. These events will feature fun, nature-based children’s stories and activities for ages 4-8. Crafts and hands-on nature activities appropriate activities! Do the Heron-stick dance!

The Nature Store Celebrates Children’s Book Week, May 2–8, 2016, and Beyond!

Welcome to the Portland Audubon Nature Store, or send in this handy form. You can join online at audubonportland.org/support/membership, in our Nature Store, or send in this handy form.

Become a Member

I want to become a member
Please renew my membership
Your Name
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Email
Phone

I want to give a Gift Membership to:
Name
Address
Phone

We will send a card to the new member notifying them of your gift.

Join Our Flock — Become a Member

Your membership dollars support our Conservation, Education, and Wildlife Rehabilitation Programs! Memberships help us protect native birds and their habitats, and come with perks such as discounts on classes, camps, and trips and in our Nature Store. You can join online at audubonportland.org/support/membership, in our Nature Store, or send in this handy form.

Membership Levels:

- $35 Individual
- $45 Family
- $75 Senior
- $100 Goldfinch
- $250 Warbler
- $500 Owl
- $1,000 Peregrine
- $2,500 Osprey
- $5,000 Eagle

- $10 per month Frequent Flyer

Payment Method

My check, payable to Audubon Society of Portland, is enclosed.
Please charge my: Visa MasterCard
Discover

Card #: _____________________________
Expiration Date: __________________

www.audubonportland.org

MAY/JUNE 2016
Great Blue Heron Week continued from page 2

Wednesday, June 1
7pm–8pm: Birding the Willamette Greenway at South Waterfront
Meet Mike Houck for an evening heron watch along the temporary greenway trail at South Waterfront. Bring your binoculars and spotting scopes and dress for the weather. Meet on the greenway trail on the Willamette River side of the Morrison Bridge anytime between 7pm and 8pm. Mike will be there with his scope. Take the Portland streetcar, bike, or drive to SW Moody and SW Curry Street and walk to the eastern end of SW Curry and onto the temporary greenway in front of the Meriwether condominiums.

Sunday, June 5
8am–11am: Birds of Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge
Meet Mike Houck in the parking lot at the north end of Sellwood Park, SE Sellwood Boulevard and SE 7th Avenue at 8am sharp. Bring binoculars and, if you have one, a spotting scope.

Wednesday, June 8
8am–9:30am: Birding the Willamette Greenway at South Waterfront
See Wednesday, June 1, for location details.

Saturday, June 11
8am–11am: Herons of Rock Creek Greenway
Join Mike Houck on a hike along Hillsboro’s Rock Creek Greenway and explore the wetlands and riparian habitat at the Norm Thompson corporate headquarters on Rock Creek. Norm Thompson is located at 3388 NW Aloclek Drive. Take I-205 west to NW Cornell Road, head west on NW Cornell Road to NW Evergreen Parkway, turn right (west) onto Evergreen Parkway west to NW Aloclek Drive. Turn left (south) onto NW Aloclek Drive. Turn into the driveway and proceed east through the parking lot and you will see 3118 on the side of the building. Meet Mike Houck promptly at 8am at the entrance to Norm Thompson’s offices.

Sunday, June 12
9:30–10pm: Paddling Ross Island
Enjoy a morning on the Willamette River at the annual Ross Island Regatta! We’ll paddle through the no-wake zone on the Holgate Channel and Ross Island lagoon, around Ross Island, and back to Willamette Park. We’ll watch the Bald Eagle nest and heron nesting colony on Ross Island, listen for birds, and look for river otter. Meet no later than 9am at Willamette Park Boat Ramp to unload your canoe or kayak and get into the water by launch time. The boat ramp is located at SW Macadam and Nebraska St. and has metered parking.

If you are renting a canoe or kayak, make sure you leave plenty of time to get your craft and be in the water ready to paddle by 9:30am sharp. Rentals: Alder Creek Kayak, 503-285-1819, aldercreek.com. Portland Kayak Company, 503-459-4660, portlandkayak.com.

The Catio Tour is part of Portland Audubon and the FCCO’s Cats Safe at Home campaign, which seeks to reduce the number of cats living outdoors in the Portland metropolitan area in a humane and environmentally responsible manner. Both organizations believe every cat deserves a safe home where they are loved, cared for, and kept free from hazards. For more information about the campaign, visit audubonportland.org/

SAVE THE DATE!
2016 Wild Arts Festival November 19 and 20
Remember, it’s a wild world out there for all of us! Planning for our 36th Annual Wild Arts Festival is well underway—the jury process of this year’s artist’s is halfway complete (we’ll announce artists in July), and the Rock Fair Committee has begun reaching out to artists to participate. Of course we hope that all local artists (professional or amateur!) are planning to participate in this year’s 6th Project—always one of the most popular parts of the Festival—and that all art- and nature-lovers out there will consider volunteering, donating to the Silent Auction, or sponsoring the Festival as one of our “40 Friends” at the $250 level. Learn more at WildArtsFestival.org, and stay tuned for further developments in the coming month.

Audubon Summer Camp: Creating Connection
Continued from cover
merely a few drops of water can destroy the greatest human machine. They would laugh at the tale of the Titanic, for many humans could not survive the frigid waters Orcas call home. After hearing the story of humans, many would perhaps pity the landlubbers for their ignorance and inaccessibility of the great waters, and would gawk in disbelief if I told them of my experience in the sea (which I previously believed to be a loft). Although the orca’s would certainly ridicule the flaws of men, they would still relate, because they themselves had had pitiful experiences on solid ground, for as many human families had lost members to sea leading vessels, as had Orcas inherently reading a zany and attempting to catch prey on land. They would certainly not laugh at the tale of the practices of humanity today—pollution, coral bleaching, poaching, and urbanization. The story of orcas, striped ecosystems, and acidic waters would immediately spell danger and worry across their minds as all hope would seem lost. “But do not fear,” I would explain. I would then tell them the tale of conservation, the tale of beach cleans whales rescued, that of ‘boys being cleaned of litter, and those of constructed wildlife refuges. I would tell of the crowd of activists ready to bring the world to a better future. One step at a time. This is the story of hope, and the main tale I would tell to the orcas, the tale that all Orca kind would pass on for generations.

July comes in all shapes and sizes. Parents must wade through many exceptional activities offered by Portland-area camps and are constantly looking for the right fit for their child. At Portland Audubon, if we cannot deliver the highest quality with the lowest instructor:camper ratio (1 to 6), we won’t offer the program. Our focus on these goals not only keeps Audubon campers connected to the natural world in real and meaningful ways but also creates a continuum that sees campers becoming Counselors, Counselors becoming Interns, and interns who are now Environmental Educators inspiring kids to love and protect nature.

Check out page 7 for Audubon East Explorers, All the Way to Monterey, & Destination Redwoods.

Members Receive a Discount at the Nature Store
Audubon Society of Portland’s Nature Store is the headquarters for naturalists in the Portland-Vancouver area. We feature nature books, hiking & field guides, binoculars & spotting scopes, bird feeders & seed, plus gifts & toys for kids & adults, all with a nature theme. Portland Audubon members receive a 10% off regular prices! Zeiss Optics Outdoor Family Days Promotion! Zeiss Sports Optics is offering exciting mail-in rebates from April 1 through May 30 on many of their binoculars and nature observation equipment. When you purchase a pair of Zeiss Terra ED or Conquest HD binoculars, you’ll receive a $50 prepaid Visa Gift Card. The Terras are available in compact 8x25 & 10x25 models with hi-fi helings (making them small enough to tuck into your pocket) as well as mid-size and full-size models. All have ED (extra-low dispersion glass), and are water- and fog-proof. Zeiss Conquests are a step up in quality, with European manufacturing and a 5-year No-Fault Warranty. They are available in both mid-sized (32mm) and full-sized (42mm) models.

Purchase Zeiss Victory SF binoculars, and receive a free pair of 8x42 Terra ED binoculars. What a great opportunity to get Zeiss binos for yourself and another for a gift (perhaps for Mother’s Day or Father’s Day?). Check our website (bit.ly/1W1jzhK) for models and prices, then hurry in to the Nature Store to claim your rebate!
The Joy of Giving
Lee Christie and Thomas Keffer
Birds at the Center of the Web of Life

Thomas Keffer and Lee Christie of Hood River love to spend time in the great outdoors. Thomas is the founder of Rogue Wave Softball, and Lee is an environmental educator and animal lover; both are now active in nonprofit work. They recently raised their annual giving to Blue Heron ($1,000) level and put Audubon Society of Portland in their estate plan. We asked about their connection to our mission.

Why is Audubon Society of Portland important to you?
We love the big vision. Portland Audubon is effective statewide and it has what it takes to work with the local populace—big vision always comes down to individual action on the ground. We like the way it is involved in the political and regulatory picture, mobilizes members, and works to educate the public.

What is it about birds?
If there's anything we've learned in 40 years of environmentalism, it's how interlinked everything is. Birds are right in the middle of the web of life, in every kind of habitat, in every ecosystem. We like birds, but beyond that, they're a great way to approach a complicated, sprawling problem; they're indicative of the health of the whole ecosystem.

Thinking about buying or leasing a new vehicle? Help Audubon Society of Portland at the same time! Toyota of Portland's Driving Communities Program

A shared vision to be involved in the community

A desire to give back and a love of Oregon, drive Jade Wolff, consultant, and Ishan Ray, digital marketing manager, to create Toyota of Portland's fabulous new Driving Communities Program. By creating long-term, mutually beneficial relationships to drive dollars back to the community in which they live and work, Jade and Ishan want Toyota of Portland to become the best place to buy a great vehicle AND support causes Oregonians care about.

“People will buy cars from us, and we can distribute money from their choices,” says Jade. “What I like about this program is that customers don’t have to pay extra to participate—Portland of Toyota will donate a portion of the profits and help Portland Audubon raise awareness for wildlife and habitats,” says Ishan.

Jade offers, “As a birder and former environmental educator, partnering with Portland Audubon was an easy choice. I know what a great organization it is and I believe in the work they do, and their members care about the things I care about.”

General Manager Mike Kuhn, who has supported many great causes through his dealership’s heart campaign, “The Driving Communities Program has the potential to create a lot of much-needed resources for Audubon Society of Portland and ultimately the community.”

The Importance of Estate Planning

Estate planning will help you achieve your personal and family goals now and after you are gone. Estate planning ensures that your wealth and property go where you want them to go, providing for others according to your values. Every adult should have a will. If no will exists, state law will dictate how your assets are distributed.

The Audubon Society of Portland Legacy Circle

Leave your legacy—a gift from your estate that will carry forward your compassion and love for Oregon’s amazing birds and our beautiful lands. When you name the Audubon Society of Portland in your will, you will provide for the future environmental health of our region and the future of the programs, services, and activities we provide.

For over 114 years, the work of Portland Audubon members has resulted in the abundance of parks, forests, and other natural areas we enjoy now. Over the years we have seen how important a bequest can be. Literally thousands of native birds and wildlife have benefited from estate gifts, providing us with strategic resources for education programs, for renovating and enhancing our wildlife sanctuary, and for funding our conservation work and Wildlife Care Center. Your legacy gift will help us serve Oregon into the next 114 years.

We would be glad to discuss your giving options with you in confidence and with no obligation. Contact Ann Takamoto, Development Director, at 971-222-6117.

Welcome Our New Development Assistant, Avery Hurst

I f you call with questions about your Wer installations, or membership renewals, you may very well get on the line with our new Development Assistant, Avery Hurst. Avery joined Portland Audubon’s development team following a move from her hometown of Chicago, Illinois, where she had worked for the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance, in both the Development and Programs & Interpretation Departments. For five years, there she advocated for the Conservatory’s historical and unique tropical plant collection by immersing herself in nonprofit fundraising, membership engagement, environmental education and programming, and community outreach. Prior to the Conservatory, she worked for the Chicago Park District’s Culture, Arts, and Nature department, leading summer camping programs around and outside the city for seven years. Avery holds a BS in Recreation Management and Tourism from the University of Vermont, with a minor in Spanish.

Avery enjoys travel and learning about different cultures, wildlife, and their habitats. She spent a semester studying ecotourism and natural history in Costa Rica, and, for her undergraduate studies, with eight months backpacking across South America. In the past year, she has traveled around Southeast Asia eating, photographing, and scuba diving, and toured the southern United States camping and couch-surfing. She is very happy to settle in Portland with her partner and indoor cat, finding spare time to bike, swim, hike, play soccer, garden, and adopt the fastest growing outdoor sport as her newest pastime—birding. We are so happy to have Avery on our team!

Audubon Society of Portland gratefully acknowledges these special gifts:

In Memory

Sara W. Baker
Thoe Family

Marylin Burke
April & Bruce DaUbi

Donald Chase
Bernie & Maxine Schmucker

Jonathan Epstein
James Edlich

Michael H. Gold
Tama Lundell

Lillian Massonne
Candy Plant

Deanne Sawtelle
Mary & Allan Solarus

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Margaret Bell
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Pam & Rick Meyers
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John Plant
Ginnie Ross

Mary & Allan Solarus
Ann Takamoto

In Honor

Julie Ann Barker
Peter Schmidt

Calhoun Blackwell
Lily Hogan

Deanna Sawtelle & Lily Candy Plant

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Audubon Society of Portland Staff & Volunteer

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Carol Goldberg

Pam & Rick Meyers
Candy Plant

John Plant
Ginnie Ross

Mary & Allan Solarus
Ann Takamoto

Steve Robertson, Micah Calhoun
Burdick

Joe Litzinger & Jay Witgott
Jean Baechler-Brown

Pam Meyers
Mr. Th & G. Biggles

William Simon

You can honor a special person with a gift to Audubon Society of Portland. Your gift will help fund 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 971-222-6117. A special card acknowledging your thoughtful gift will be sent to the honoree or family.
Birdathon 2016—Counting 36 Years Strong!

If you wish your hours spent birding could help save the lives of birds? Then join us for Birdathon—it’s like a walk-a-thon, but so much better. Friends, family members, and coworkers pledge money for you to find and count birds...something you’ll likely be doing anyway this spring. Register today and know that every bird you spot will raise funds for their protection!

We’d love to see each and every Audubon Society of Portland member participate—join a team, make a pledge to a friend or relative, or simply make a Birdathon donation. Together we all count to protect birds and wildlife across Oregon:

Donate online at Birdathon.audubonportland.org, or use the pledge envelope included in this Warbler. Join a team—there are birding trips for any level of birder. See the great trips with available space below, find out how to create your own team—or just fly solo! Follow the links at Birdathon.audubonportland.org.

Half-Day Trips

NEW TEAM! The Fledge
Saturday, April 23, 9am–Noon
Fledgling birders and their families bird with
Xander Patterson, Greg Baker, Tim Grimes.

NEW TEAM! Greater Peewees
Sunday, April 24, 7am–12:30pm
For new birders seeking to develop field skills with Sauvie Island expert Greg Baker.

The Great Big Sit
Sunday, April 24, 8am-Noon
The perfect Birdathon experience for beginning birders with Phyllis Wolfe, Dena Turner, and Diane Stone.

A Song in the Morning
Wednesday, May 4, 6:30am–9am
Birding by Ear on Mt Tabor with Gerard Lillie.

The Wild Turkeys
Friday, May 13–Sunday, May 15
Return to Malheur NWR with Mike Houck, Ron Carley, and other notorious birders for the ultimate gзоно trip.

NEW TRIP! Put An Owl On It! – A Blue Mountain Adventure
Saturday, June 4–Sunday, June 5
A trek in search of owls and other breeding birds of the forest with Scott Carpenter, Joe Lieberzeit, and Rhett Wilkins.

NEW TEAM! Owl Be Darned
Saturday, May 28–Sunday May 29
“A Sisterhood of Birding” experience in the Cascades with Hailey Walls, Kayla McCurry, and Christine Jervis.

Thank you to our sponsors:

Millennial Falcons
With Laura Whittemore and Mark Fitzsimons.

Wednesday's Whatzits
Sunday, May 8, 8am–1pm
Steigerwald Lake NWR with Laura Whittemore and Mark Fitzsimons.

The Bountifuls
Sunday, May 22, 9:45am–1pm
Attention birding foodies! A back-stage (or should we say “farm?”) pass to a premier organic farm. Our Table Cooperative, with Barb Grover.

Jackson Bottom Ramblers
Saturday, June 4, 7am-Noon
Birding with former Audubon staffer Steve Engel at this Important Bird Area.

Full-Day Trips

Mult Madness
Saturday, May 7, 7am–6pm
Wink Gross and Andy Frank lead a tour of birding hotspots in Multnomah County.

NEW TEAM! Weekday Warblers
Thursday, May 12, 6:30am–8:30pm
Sometimes birding can’t wait for the weekend! Journey to the north coast with John Rakestraw, author of Birding Oregon.

The Joy of Birding
Saturday, May 14, 6:30am–9:30pm
A trip to the central coast for both beginners and experienced birders, with Paul Sullivan.

Soggy Bottom Birders
Friday, May 26, 9am–4pm
An exclusive birding tour of wetlands with Ian Abraham, Tim Donner, and Laura Newton.

A “Sisterhood of Birding” experience in the Cascades with

Raven Maniacs
Saturday, May 21, 6:30am–6:30pm
Steve Robertson and Hailey Walls bird the city to the sea.

Gonzo Trips

The Wild Turkeys
Friday, May 13–Sunday, May 15
A “Sisterhood of Birding” experience in the Cascades with Scott Carpenter, Joe Lieberzeit, and Rhett Wilkins.

NEW TEAM! Owl Be Darned
Saturday, May 28–Sunday May 29
“A Sisterhood of Birding” experience in the Cascades with Hailey Walls, Kayla McCurry, and Christine Jervis.

Report your Birdathon adventures and follow us at #BirdathonPDX!

PNTA Index

The Audubon Society of Portland is a member of Earth Share of Oregon. For more information, contact Earth Share of Oregon at 503-223-9013 or on the web at www.earthshare-oregon.org.