

THE CALLIOPE

EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2018



From the President --

Recently, I've been thinking about our Board, our members, and our Committees. I'd like to recognize some folks that have been working hard to make our Chapter function efficiently.

Terri Hyde is our Treasurer. I don't think most members have any idea what that entails. Terri, with Assistant Treasurer John Brune, handle all our day-to-day budgeting and record keeping. Terri also does our tax return, our insurance negotiations, our field trip waiver forms, the annual report to Audubon National, and a lot of other stuff. She sits on the Grants Committee and the Finance Committee and attends all Board meetings. Each of the items above requires a large commitment of time, far more than any other Board members (including your President!). Thanks, Terri!

Our Membership Committee. Headed up by Jan Rising and Miriam Lipsitz, with the help of several volunteers, they keep the membership records, handle notifications to lapsed members, sign up new members at the Annual Event, and acknowledgements to new members. Like our Treasurer, a large commitment of time and it is appreciated! Thanks, Jan and Miriam!

And finally, a special few of our members. So far this year at least 32 of our new or renewing members, instead of joining or renewing at the usual membership level of \$15 for Seniors or \$25 for family, have increased their membership to the Sustaining level of \$100 or more. We've had one lifetime membership renewal. By increasing the dues they pay, they have given ECAS several thousands of additional dollars to put toward our Conservation projects and grants to other conservation organizations. My thanks to each of them!

Ken Hashagen, ECAS President

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ECAS Spring and Summer Events



2018 DEAN HALE WOODPECKER FESTIVAL

The 8th annual 2018 Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival will be held **May 31 – June 3**. Based in Sisters, Oregon, this is an opportunity to see the eleven species of woodpeckers that nest locally as well as up to 200 species found on the combined trips. East Cascades Audubon Society sponsors this festival, which offers a fun, friendly, casual atmosphere that is all about the birds. The trips are affordable and two local volunteers guide each trip with the proceeds supporting the many ECAS projects and programs fostering bird conservation. Online **registration opens April 2, 2018 at 9am**, PDT. Trip registration fills fast. Complete information can be found at www.ecaudubon.org/dean-hale-woodpecker-festival

BIRDERS' NIGHTS are monthly Thursday evening programs, free and open to all, held at The Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend. Doors open at 6:30pm for coffee, snacks, and conversation. The evening's program begins at 7pm. Upcoming topics are:

April 19 Mary Oppenheimer and Howard Horvath - Birding Down Under

Howard Horvath and Mary Oppenheimer made their second trip to Australia last fall, during the Australian spring. Their journey took them from the southeast (Tasmania) to the northwest (Broome), with a three week tour to the Outback in between. Orchids, a Wallaby Joey, and of course birds were all part of the journey they will share. Howard has been active in the Bend birding community since the 1980s and is a regular ECAS tour leader. Mary has served on the ECAS Board and recently retired as editor of our newsletter, the Calliope.

May 17 Elise Wolf - Bird Rehabilitation

Elise Wolf is the Director of Native Bird Care in Sisters, OR
Topics may include waterbirds, baby birds, and interesting things we learn about birds in rehabilitation.

June 21 Sarah Schulwitz - American Kestrel Program and the Peregrine Fund

Sarah Schulwitz is Director of the American Kestrel Partnership. Sarah's career interests in avian conservation began when she led public hikes for The Nature Conservancy in the Appalachian mountains of North Carolina. Since then she has pursued opportunities to conduct research with birds around the world. She earned her master's and doctorate degrees from the University of North Texas with research focused questions on ecotoxicology and conservation genetics. She joined American Kestrel Partnership in 2016 as the assistant director and is now the Director of the American Kestrel Partnership. (From the American Kestrel Partnership website)

July 19 No Birders' Night. The Annual ECAS Picnic will be held instead.

BIRDING FOR PRESCHOOLERS 10am each Monday in Drake Park. Contact Mary Yanalcanlin at birdingfun@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY BIRDERS meets each Wednesday, generally at Nancy P's in Bend. During winter months, the starting time is 8am, but this will change to 7am as warmth and long days return. Be sure to check our website or COBOL for exact starting time and place for each trip. [Click here to sign up for COBOL.](#)

Volunteer Opportunity: Heads up for the very popular Summer Lake Shorebird survey. New date: June 9th and 10th. Contact Mike Bogar at mike@avinord.net to sign up.
--from Mardi Jensen, Volunteer Coordinator

Field Trip Sign-Ups Are Now Through Eventbrite

by Tom Lawler

As many of our members have noticed, ECAS is trying something new this year for field trips. We are using Eventbrite for field trip notifications and sign ups. Why was this done? In the past, notifications of field trips was kind of haphazard. Trips were published in the Calliope and posted on the ECAS website. They could easily be forgotten! Reminders were sometimes posted to Central Oregon Birders Online (COBOL) but if you were not subscribed to COBOL you would miss these postings.

The switch to Eventbrite allows ECAS to better inform our membership about field trips and manage the field trips and attendees. First and foremost, notifying ECAS members about field trips has greatly improved. An email is now sent to members when field trips with unlimited participants are added to Eventbrite. For those trips with limited participants, members are

notified three weeks prior to the trip. The trips with limited participants allow members to sign up prior to non-members who only get a one week window prior to the trip. So far the trips with limited participants have filled quickly. Secondly Eventbrite will manage a wait list for the field trip. Lastly the field trip leader knows whom to expect and can easily communicate with the participants via email.

What about notifying our non-members about field trips? Some recent members still get *The Calliope*. If you follow the ECAS Facebook page, the field trips are posted there. Lastly, at their discretion, the field trip leaders can still post field trip information to COBOL. Non-members always have access to the ECAS web site to find out about field trips with links to Eventbrite.

A few kinks are being worked out using this process. One of those is that memberships with multiple emails are only notified via one of the email addresses. The other is trying to keep our membership list current for these notifications. These issues are being looked into with our membership committee. Finally we hope to integrate the liability waiver process during the Eventbrite sign up. At this point Eventbrite appears to be working quite smoothly. Many of our members have used Eventbrite for other organizations activities and see this as a welcome change. Many of our field trip participants have left positive comments about the switch to using Eventbrite. Hopefully we will see you on a future field trip.

Winter Field Notes 2017-2018

by Chuck Gates

The winter of 17-18 was characterized by cold December temperatures followed by very mild conditions in January and February. These conditions made for some interesting bird observations in Central Oregon. The following text outlines the highlights of those observations.

Water birds often brave winter conditions to grace us with their presence. GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GEESE are seen occasionally in winter, but the 35 birds seen at Barnes Butte Reservoir on Dec. 31 were unusual (Crabtree). Probably the season's biggest story was the presence



was the presence, throughout the winter, of Central Oregon's first EMPEROR GOOSE (Low). Only a few CACKLING GEESE were seen with records coming in from Pelton Overlook (Cahill) and Redmond's Fireman's Pond (Gates). A visiting TRUMPETER SWAN was also noted at Pelton Overlook (Cahill). EURASIAN WIGEONS were spotted at Wickiup (Low), Hatfield Lk. (Jett) and Sunriver (Little). A late SURF SCOTER was seen at Suttle Lk. on Dec. 1 (Namitz). GREATER SCAUP were tallied at Hatfield (Low), Lk. Billy Chinook (Gonzalez) and Wickiup (Low). BARROW'S GOLDENEYE doesn't usually make this summary because it's fairly common, but 200 birds noted at Pelton Overlook was certainly uncommon (Cahill). A single RED-NECKED GREBE

(Gates) and 2 HORNED GREBES (Miller) were seen at Ochoco Reservoir during the Prineville CBC. Three PACIFIC LOONS were located on Suttle Lk. in early December (Namitz). A few DUNLIN were noted at Hatfield Lk. in December and THAYER'S GULL was tallied on separate dates at Suttle Lk.

(Namitz) and near the Les Schwab Amphitheater in Bend (Crabtree). A HERRING GULL was seen at Bend's Riverbend Park (Namitz). Sora are uncommon in Crook County in winter, so birds heard at Elliott Marsh (Gonzalez) and Barnes Butte Lk. (Crabtree) were noteworthy.

Central Oregon raptors are best seen in winter months and this winter did not disappoint. Along with large numbers of more common species, a few exceptional species stuck out. A NORTHERN GOSHAWK was photographed in far eastern Crook County, near Paulina (Groo). The only RED-SHOULDERED HAWK of the winter was seen at Black Butte Ranch on the Sisters CBC (Low, Kruse). A PEREGRINE FALCON posed for a photo south of Culver in January (Gates). Barn Owls were tallied on the Prineville CBC (Gonzalez) and a WESTERN SCREECH-OWL report came in from Lava Island on the Deschutes River (Cahill). Four different BARRED OWLS were located at separate locations including Sunriver (Lawler), Madras (Scranton) and two different spots in Bend (Crabtree, Sutherland).

Central Oregon is noted as a "Woodpecker Wonderland" but unusual woodpecker sightings in winter are just that, unusual. In Sisters, a very rare, but second-hand, ACORN WOODPECKER report was recorded (Wick fide) but not confirmed. A WILLIAMSON'S SAPSUCKER was found in Bend for an unusual winter record and a BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKER turned up at Brennan Palisades NE of Prineville (Kathol, Vick).



Passerines are the little, endearing "tweetybirds" that enthrall most of us. Some nice passerines were seen this winter. SAY'S PHOEBES were tallied on Dec. 12 (Authier), Dec. 16 (Cahill), Jan. 1 (Gates), Feb. 5 (Kathol) and Feb. 15 (Tank, Gonzalez). A shocking sighting of BLACK PHOEBE was made at Lake Billy Chinook on Dec. 22 for Jefferson County's 5th record. A BARN SWALLOW was seen hunting on the Deschutes River near Warm Springs for a first December record (Moodie). BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES were located at their regular haunt in the same area as the swallow (Scranton). BEWICK'S WRENS were found in Prineville (Gonzalez) and along the Deschutes NE of Warm Springs (Moodie) while a single CANYON WREN report came in from Trout Cr. (Scranton). It was a good winter for VARIED THRUSH with dozens of reports by multiple observers. HERMIT THRUSHES were also located at Tetherow Crossing (Low) and near Prineville (Zalunardo). AMERICAN PIPITS were found at Bend Riverfront Park (Namitz), Ochoco Cr. (Namitz), Prineville Sewer Ponds (Staats) and Bend's Old Mill (Meredith). YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLERS turned up at Black Butte Ranch (Low, Kruse) and in Prineville (Staats). Wintering SAVANNAH SPARROWS were noted at the Culver Sewer Ponds (Gates, Miller) and the Crooked R. Wetlands (Miller, Roberts). Smith

Rock State Park produced the only winter LINCOLN'S SPARROW record this year (Low). A SWAMP SPARROW was heard at the Crooked R. Wetlands on the Prineville CBC for a rare Crook County record (Miller). At least 13 FOX SPARROWS were noted at different locations throughout the winter. WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS turned up in Sisters (Schas), along Purcell in Bend (Low) and along Bilyou Cr. In Bend (Kancler). HARRIS'S SPARROWS were found in Warm Springs (Chamberlain), the Bend Pine Nursery (Mauer, Low, Moodie) and along Purcell in Bend (Low). A single LAPLAND LONGSPUR report came in from the Deschutes River near Mecca Flats (Moodie, Kruse). A rare PINE GROSBEAK was seen at Black Butte Ranch (Lowe, Kruse) and a large flock of GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCHES spent much of the winter at Smith Rock State Park (Grediagin). Up to 15 COMMON REDPOLLS were noted over the winter from 7 different locations and multiple observers. PURPLE FINCHES spent most of the winter feeding on crabapples at the Prineville Cemetery (Gonzalez).

OBSERVERS

Mark Gonzalez, Courtney Jett, Chuck Gates, Russ Namitz, Peter Low, Jake Schas, Craig Miller, Marilyn Miller, Cindy Zalunardo, Tom Crabtree, Chris Scranton, Pam Scranton, Tyler Groo, Scott Staats, Janice Staats, Matt Cahill, Josh Little, Mary Anne Kruse, Tom Lawler, Don Sutherland, Teresa Wick, Kim Kathol, David Vick, Jim Moodie, Bob Authier, Sue Tank, Judy Meredith, Don Roberts, Diana Roberts, Erik Kancler, Ken Chamberlain, Alan Mauer and Pat Grediagin.



WELCOME NEW ECAS MEMBERS!

Ron	Beyerinck	Sisters, OR
Clifford & Pamela	Bond	Bend, OR
Christopher/Mariella	Braumann/Nolfo	Redmond, OR
Bill/Marj	Castillo/Bishop	Redmond, OR
Frank	Conte	Camp Sherman, OR
Cathy	Drzyzgula	Redmond, OR
Paul	Evans	Salem, OR
Annette Lange	Hildebrand	Madras, OR
John	Kistler	Oregon City, OR
Amy	Lafferty	Bend, OR
Buzz	McCollough	Bend, OR
Carol	Moorehead	Sisters, OR
Kent	Neff	Sisters, OR
Deb	Parker	Redmond, OR
Meg	Ruby	Portland, OR
Dan	Schafer	Bend, OR
Barbara	Silversmith	Bend, OR
Barbara	Standiford	Bend, OR
Sheila	Timony	Bend, OR
Joel	Tinsley	Powell Butte, OR
Craig & Jeanne	Wallin	Bend, OR
Robin	Young	Redmond, OR

Regional, National and Global Bird News



2018: The Year of the Bird

by Diana Roberts

Did you know that the National Audubon Society, National Geographic, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Birdlife International along with over a hundred other organizations have declared 2018 as the “Year of the Bird?”

The Year of the Bird will examine how our changing environment is driving dramatic losses among bird species around the globe and highlight what we can do help reverse this negative trend. People are invited to join together this year to celebrate the wonder of birds, the role they play on our planet and to learn how to protect the places birds need to thrive.

The national organizations will showcase beautiful photography and fascinating stories as well as advance science and conservation insights. The 2018 Year of the Bird is also designed to be an active year, offering individuals a critical role to play, enabling them to focus on personal efforts to protect birds and their habitats. Each month the Year of the Bird will suggest simple actions individuals can take to protect birds in their area. Actions like helping choose native plants that are good for birds who live in central Oregon and “Lights Out Bend,” which helps keep birds safe during migration.

To get more information go to the official 2018 Year of the Bird website below. Begin by taking the “Count Me In” pledge, committing to making the world a better place for birds. Learn more at:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/projects/year-of-the-bird/>

“If you take care of the birds, you take care of most of the big environmental problems in the world.”

—Thomas E. Lovejoy, Biologist and “Godfather of Biodiversity”

Lights Out Bend

by Mary Ann Kruse <lightsoutbend2014@gmail.com

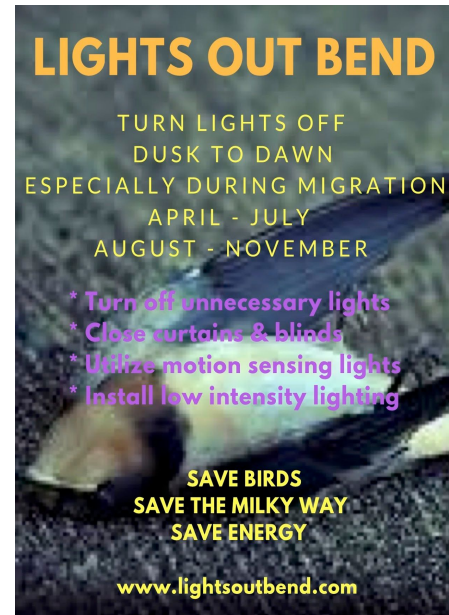
It's spring migration in Central Oregon! Will birds be successful? What can we do to help? Turn off unnecessary interior and exterior lights at night.

Most small birds migrate at night using the moon and stars to navigate. Maintaining a steady course is easier at night, free of daytime thermals for a more stable atmosphere. Cooler nighttime temperatures help keep the hard-flying birds from overheating. Flying under the cover of darkness can be a benefit for small birds and insects who often become menu items for daytime predators, raptors, cats.

Bright city lights tend to lure birds off their migratory course and into cities where building and window collisions frequently cause injury and death. You can help ensure birds have a safe passage by turning off all unnecessary interior and exterior lights. If lights are a necessity, hooding and shielding to contain scatter is important. Program lights on timers to turn off after dusk. Close blinds and curtains to minimize window reflection.

LIGHTS OUT BEND (LOB) (lightsoutbend.com) is an education and advocacy program of East Cascades Audubon Society (ECAS). LOB asks residents and businesses to turn off unnecessary interior and exterior lighting at night throughout the year—especially during Central Oregon's spring and fall migration—April - July and August - November. Progressive businesses and organizations partnering with Lights Out Bend include: St Charles Hospital Bend Campus, Deschutes Public Library, Ruffwear, Walgreens @ NE Franklin & Hwy 97, University of Oregon's Pine Mountain Observatory, Worthy Garden Club, Worthy Hopsevatory, High Desert Museum, International Dark-Sky Association.

Our community will offer protection to more than 150 species of birds as they migrate through our Central Oregon night sky by simply turning lights off. Another compelling reason to evaluate your own light pollution is the cost of wasted energy with a 40% output spilling upward into the night sky. A city can be beautiful and safe with a conscientious reduction in waste light while saving song birds and insects, protect the health of humans and wildlife, protect our dark sky. For a brighter future with starry night skies and songbirds, dim the lights.



Pacific City April Festival



The 14th Annual Birding and Blues Festival will be held in Pacific City, Friday, April 20th to Sunday, April 22nd, 2018. This festival aims to share the natural beauty and wildlife of the area while offering education and entertainment for visitors and the local community. This event-packed, three-day festival commences Friday with an all-day birding excursion along the spectacular Three Capes Scenic Route. All are welcome at the free community events on Friday evening at the Kiawanda Community Center, including a children's art activity and a live birds of prey exhibit. The evening concludes with a fundraiser dinner and a show by entertainer and amateur ornithologist Tony Starlight.

The fun continues into the weekend with guided field trips and nature presentations. This year's keynote speaker is Noah Strycker, world record-setting birder based out of Eugene, Oregon. Noah will present on his new book *Birding Without Borders* about his "Big Year," when he traveled the world and saw more than 6,000 species in one calendar year. Additional presentations include those on Oregon's King Tides Project, and the introduction of a rare butterfly to Oregon's coastal prairie. There will be another live Birds of Prey presentation, focusing on invasive species and the role of these birds. Finally, learn about the history of feeding wild birds in America, and the growth of sustainable rice farming, and how that benefits our native birds.

Other events throughout the weekend include activities with local artists, guided paddle trips, and a blues concert. Field trip locations include Nestucca Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Neskowin Marsh, the beach in Pacific City, and Sitka Sedge State Natural Area, Oregon State Parks' newest acquisition.

On Saturday evening, boogie on down with Karen Lovely, an electric blues singer known for her passionate, driven performances. Lovely established herself as a singer/songwriter with a style uniquely her own, receiving nominations for the prestigious 2018 Blues Music Award for "Best Contemporary Blues Female Artist" and 2018 BluesBlast Award for "Best Female Artist". Lovely was nominated for three Blues Music Awards for Best Contemporary Blues Female Artist, Best Contemporary Blues Album and Best Song for her sophomore release *Still the Rain*. Lovely's newest release, FISH OUTTA WATER debuted at #13 on the Billboard Top 100 Blues Album chart.

For more information and registration, visit www.birdingandblues.org

The Birding and Blues Festival is a non-profit community festival with a mission is to provide a community driven event that is informative and entertaining and celebrates the spring migration of birds and the natural resources of South Tillamook County.

5 May 2018 Global Big Day

from Team eBird

How many birds can a world of birders find in one day? You can help answer that question on 5 May 2018: Global Big Day.

Last year's Global Big Day featured more than 20000 people across 162 countries, collectively reporting 6637 species of birds—more than 60% of the world's bird diversity. This May, you can be a part of the fun. All you have to do is spend a few minutes birding, and eBird what you find.

Here are three quick ways to have the most fun:

--"Scout" your birding spots for 5 May. Finding where the birds are ahead of time makes the big day birding more fun, and also gives you more chances to be out enjoying birds. Perfect. Learn how to use eBird to find birds.

--Use eBird Mobile. eBird's free data-entry app takes the time out of data entry, with tools like Quick Entry that mean you have less time with your face in a notebook and more time birding. Try eBird Mobile.

--Get a friend involved. Perhaps this is a good birding buddy, or someone who has never been birding before. Make it a friendly competition, or join forces as a Global Big Day team, and put your marker on the global participation map. Share on social media using #GlobalBigDay. Check out the Facebook event.

No matter what you do, have a great time, enjoy the birds around you, and let us know what you find! We're excited to see what we can achieve together on Global Big Day.

Prineville's Wetland Project Wins Engineering Award

Reprinted from the Jan. 29, 2018 Bend Bulletin



The Crooked River Wetlands project that treats wastewater in Prineville has been awarded top honors for the state at the 2018 Engineering Excellence Awards.

The project was named Project of the Year at an awards ceremony on Jan. 24 and will advance to the national awards competition hosted by the American Council of Engineering Companies.

The Crooked River Wetlands project is a series of gravity-fed pools that treat wastewater naturally through reeds and pond plants. The wetlands were created in 2016 in response to a dire need to expand sewer treatment capacity in Prineville.

A potential \$62 million mechanical plant was out of the question, city engineer Eric Klann said previously, because it would raise annual sewer charges to city residents from \$3,800 per home to \$9,147.

The wetlands reduced costs from \$62 million to \$7.7 million while also creating more than five miles of walking or running trails that are open to the public. The city also worked with local schools to help create 13 informational kiosks around the wetlands.

Job Announcement Eastern Oregon Field Coordinator Open until April 25, 2018 or until filled

Portland Audubon is recruiting for a full time position to be located in Harney County to support the work of the High Desert Partnership, Malheur NWR and other conservation initiatives in the area (including a number of OAC priorities). Please share this announcement with anybody you think might be interested. The position description can be found here:

http://audubonportland.org/files/employment/malheur-field-coordinator-2018-final/at_download/file

EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY

P. O. Box 565, Bend Oregon

www.ecaudubon.org

Board Members

President	Ken Hashagen
Vice-President	Tom Lawler
Secretary	Diane Burgess
Treasurer	Terri Hyde
Board Members	John Brune
	Diane Burgess
	Tom Penpraze
	Diana Roberts
	Carolyn Rochelle

Contact information for Board, Committee Chairs, and Project leaders is posted on the ECAS website under "MORE - Contact ECAS" and "ECAS Board."

Spring 2018 Board Meetings

April 3

May 1

June 5

Winter Board meetings are held at 1pm at The Environmental Center on the first Tuesday of each month. All members are welcome to attend. Future Board meeting dates can be found in the activity calendar at

www.ecaudubon.org. Board minutes are also posted at that site after approval by the Board.

Committee and Event Chairs

Annual Event	Ken Hashagen
Bluebirds	Ken Hashagen
Birders' Night	Sue Bertsch
Communications	Diana Roberts
Conservation	Tom Lawler
Education	Sherrie Pierce
Field Trips	Tom Penpraze
Finance	Terri Hyde
Grants	Mary Oppenheimer
Green Ridge Raptors	David Vick
Lake Abert Study	John Reuland
Lewis's Woodpeckers	Diane Kook
Membership	Jan Rising
Newsletter	Claire Weiser
Science	Ken Hashagen
Summer Lake Survey	Mike Bogar
Vaux's Swifts	Bob Johnson
	Mary Anne Kruse
Volunteers	Mardi Jensen and Sherrie Pierce
Website	Ted Groszkiewicz
Wednesday Birders	Judy Meredith
	Howard Horvath
Winter Raptor Survey	Jeff Fleisher
Woodpecker Festival	Ken Hashagen

If you would like to volunteer for a committee or event, please contact Sherrie Pierce at 541-548-4641.

The East Cascades Audubon Society (ECAS) is a 501(c)(3) organization that furthers knowledge and appreciation of birds and their habitats through field trips, education, and field studies. Join ECAS and help preserve the birds of the Central Oregon region at www.ecaudubon.org.