

# THE CALLIOPE

EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2019



## President's Message

*By Tom Lawler*

To help me figure out what the President's Message for Spring 2019 should address I looked back at the last four years to get an idea for subject matter. Looking back at a number of years a common theme has been what ECAS has to offer its membership or talking about all the work volunteers are doing for our organization. Let's think about how that happens.

There is not a person that is doing something for ECAS that is compensated in any way monetarily. This entire organization, from the Board, various committees, field trips leaders and those that lead Wednesday Birding, do bird surveys and raptor surveys all do this for the love of helping birds and/or getting people involved in birding. Without these volunteers ECAS would just be a name, a 501-c-3, nothing more.

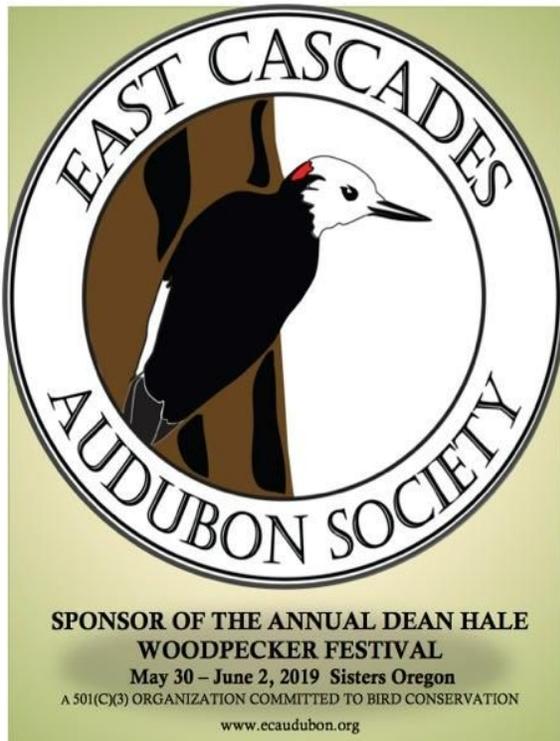
The Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival, which is attended by birders from all over the country, is put on by volunteers. Volunteers organize the event and the trips are lead by volunteers. The DHWF has turned into our major fundraiser. We have so many more projects we could be involved in with more volunteers.

As you read through this newsletter, think of ways you can become more involved, contribute, and enjoy your ECAS membership!

## Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival

*by Ken Hashagen*

Registration opens April 1 for the 9th annual Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival taking place in Sisters, Oregon, May 30 - June 2, 2019. Festival participants have a choice of 20 guided tours in search of 11 different species of woodpeckers and 200 other birds that make the forests, burn areas and diverse habitat of Sisters and Central Oregon a birding hot spot. The East Cascades Audubon Society (ECAS) sponsors the Festival and two ECAS volunteers guide each trip. Festival tours are limited to ten participants and tours typically fill within a few days of the date the festival registration opens.



Few places in the United States are as rich in such a variety of woodpeckers as this area of central Oregon. Sisters and the Santiam Pass regions have witnessed many forest fires, like the Pole Creek Fire, the Bridge 99 fire and the Milli fire. Because burned areas attract bugs, which, in turn, attract woodpeckers, participants have a chance to see not only common woodpeckers like Hairy and Downy but also much more rare species like White-headed, American Three-toed, and Black-backed Woodpeckers.

Full day trips are \$35 while half-day trips and the Night Owl Prowl are \$25. Tours include an all day trip to Summer Lake on Thursday. On Friday there will be a birding tour to the Crooked River Country and a different trip to the Shevlin Park/Awbrey Hall Burn.

Birding trips are all day on Saturday and mornings on Sunday. The tours go to places

such as Three Creeks, Pole Creek, Cold Springs, the Milli Burn, Abbot Creek, Camp Sherman, Glaze Meadow, Indian Ford, Suttle Lake and Green Ridge, as well as several other excellent birding areas. Both weekend days also provide limited mobility birding tours for folks who would like a leisurely pace, use a wheelchair or prefer to walk short distances. A new trip this year will focus on identifying Empids and other small birds as well as woodpeckers.

In addition to the birding tours, the festival offers a native plants/birding tour on Saturday and, on Sunday, an opportunity to experience the bird banding of kestrels and bluebirds. The festival will sponsor an Owl Prowl on Saturday night as well as a social gathering at the Belfry in Sisters. Tours take place under a special use permit with the Deschutes National Forest. Participants provide their own transportation and carpooling is required.

For information about the Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival, details on the birding tours or to register for the festival go to <http://www.ecaudubon.org/dean-hale-woodpecker-festival> or email to [dhwf2019@gmail.com](mailto:dhwf2019@gmail.com) For more information, contact: Ken Hashagen, Festival Chair, (916) 316-8596

## ECAS Board 2019 - THANK YOU!

**Tom Lawler**, President, [tjlawler@crestviewcable.com](mailto:tjlawler@crestviewcable.com) Tom was elected to the Board in 2015 and is serving his 1st year as President. He has lived in Central Oregon for over 11 years. In that time he has slowly become involved in birding activities in the area. Not only has his love for birds grown in these years but also his desire to get bird activities going in southern Deschutes county. In the last few years he started leading Saturday bird walks at the Sunriver Nature Center most weeks March thru October. These bird walks are a popular activity in this resort area. He has taught bird watching classes at La Pine Parks and Rec and has been requested to work with home-schooled children teaching them the skills of bird watching. He has also led ECAS field trips and at the Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival. He has also participated in Christmas Bird Counts, Spring and Fall Migration Counts and Winter raptor surveys in Lake County. He regularly visits Cabin Lake to clean the water bowls and pick up trash. He has become project leader for that site and its improvements. In addition he also handles birds at Sunriver Nature Center and gives bird talks about birds-of-prey. Tom is the liaison to the ECAS Conservation Committee and is leading many of its new conservation projects.

**Diana Roberts**, Vice-President, [weatherford100@gmail.com](mailto:weatherford100@gmail.com) Diana was elected to the Board in 2016 and is now serving her 1st term as Vice-President. Diana holds a Masters Degree in Child Development and spent her career working in the Oregon Department of Human Services. In her own words: "I have always been interested birds, butterflies, wild flowers and all aspects of the natural world; from the first time I went camping as a preschooler to my current studies to become a Certified Oregon Master Naturalist. I began to seriously study birds about thirty years ago with the purchase of a field guide, decent binoculars and a house close to Basket Slough National Wildlife Refuge." She planned the programs and facilitated the meetings for ECAS Birders' Night for five years and monitors several kestrel nest boxes each spring. She was excited to join the ECAS board, hoping to continue contributing to bird conservation, the enjoyment of birds and fun birding adventures. She will coordinate Publicity for the organization and serve as liaison to the Education Committee.

**Diane Burgess**, Secretary [dgburgess54@gmail.com](mailto:dgburgess54@gmail.com) My interest in birding began in 2007 while visiting a friend in Jekyll Island, Georgia. She suggested we take a guided birding tour. I saw so many beautiful birds in the woods, wetlands, and on the beach. My favorites were the Roseate Spoonbill, Black Skimmer, Wood Stork, and Anhinga. I joined ECAS after moving to Bend in 2012. I took outdoor recreation COCC classes led by Damian Fagan. During the snowshoeing outings, he always pointed out the birds. In February, I joined his birding trip to Klamath Falls. We saw so many waterfowl and raptors. I knew then that I wanted to go birding on a regular basis.

**Terri Hyde**, Treasurer, [terri.hyde@yahoo.com](mailto:terri.hyde@yahoo.com) Terri was elected to the Board in 2014 and is serving her 3rd year as Treasurer after volunteering on the Finance Committee for several years. She became interested in nature and conservation as a child growing up on a South Dakota ranch located in the Missouri flyway. In Terri's words: "I would go with my father in the early-summer dawn to watch the prairie chickens dance, and with my mother to meetings to oppose (unsuccessfully) the Big Bend Dam on the Missouri River." Terri was a tax lawyer with a Washington DC law firm (now WilmerHale) for more than 30 years where her practice included representation of tax-exempt organizations and numerous pro bono projects for conservation organizations. She received an introductory course in bird watching on a World Wildlife Fund trip to Belize and Costa Rica in 1987, and bird watching has been a source of enjoyment since that time. Terri moved to Bend in 2010 and is now retired from her law firm.

**Tom Penpraze** [tmpenpraze@gmail.com](mailto:tmpenpraze@gmail.com) Tom was elected to the Board in 2016 and is serving his 1st term. He retired from his position of Utilities Manager for the City of Corvallis and moved to Bend three years ago. He has formal education in natural resources management and environmental engineering. He's Past-president of the Friends of the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuges and served as a member of the Board of Directors and was Conservation Committee chairperson of the Corvallis Audubon Society. He states he has "an intense interest in the natural world." He and his wife Jay recently traveled to Australia, adding considerably to his bird list. Tom will be organizing seasonal Field Trips for ECAS.

**Carolyn Rochelle** [csrochelle62@gmail.com](mailto:csrochelle62@gmail.com) "For many years I have enjoyed observing and caring for the native birds that call Oregon and Washington home. Since childhood, birds have been a part of my life. I enjoyed many outings with the Tahoma Audubon Society in Tacoma, Washington. Five years ago I was introduced to ECAS as a result of monitoring a local Bluebird trail. I am looking forward to my membership on the board and the opportunity to contribute to ECAS. An added plus is that "birders" are some of the nicest people I know."

**Bob Sizoo** [thebobsizoo@gmail.com](mailto:thebobsizoo@gmail.com) "Prior to moving to Central Oregon in 2013, I lived for 45 years in Humboldt County, 60 miles south of the Oregon border in the evil state. Following 15-years doing jobs that required lots of manual effort but left plenty of time for birding, I spent 26 of years in education: 10 years teaching sixth grade in Eureka, and the rest working on the Humboldt State University campus, at various times as a program coordinator, co-director of the Redwood Writing Project, lecturer, and student teacher supervisor. I was a member of the Redwood Region Audubon Society since the early 70's, and volunteered in the 1980's as a docent at the Arcata Marsh Project, one of the earliest wetlands in the country constructed to provide tertiary sewage treatment. It's the grandpa to the Crooked River Wetlands. I live in Tumalo with my wife, three horses, two (indoor) cats, and wide open skies that took some getting used to after being hemmed-in by redwoods for four decades."

## Member Planet Being Implemented Successfully

*by Jan Rising*

THANK YOU for renewing your membership or joining as a new member online through our website with our new membership management system, Member Planet. This system streamlines our membership tasks and has many other ways to inform you about ECAS activities. Types of correspondence being sent through Member Planet include:

- Chatter, our brief monthly email
- Birder's Night notices
- Field trip announcements
- Membership renewal notices
- Emails to welcome new members or thank renewing members
- Tax acknowledgement letter
- Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival announcements and registration
- Coming soon: *The Calliope* quarterly newsletter

For those of you who choose to mail in membership payments by check, or pay by cash or check at Birder's Night, we are happy to process your membership as we always have.

If you have any questions, you can email us at: [ecasmp@ecaudubon.org](mailto:ecasmp@ecaudubon.org)

Or leave a message at our phone service and we'll return your call: 541- 241-2190



ECAS MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE From left: Bonnie Thompson, Miriam Lipsitz, Liz Thill, Jan Rising, Mardi Jensen, Jan Clark, Barb Standiford

# **COBOL and groups.io Are Now the Same Species!**

*By Tom Lawler, COBOL Administrator*

In case you missed it COBOL (Central Oregon Birders Online) is no longer hosted by Oregon State University. They politely asked as to find somewhere else to host the group because, to simply put it, we really had nothing to do with OSU!

I sent out a notice to every member belonging to the OSU COBOL on how to subscribe to the new COBOL which is now part of groups.io. Maybe you lost that email or would like to join a discussion group. What's discussed on COBOL? For the most part local bird finds and Wednesday Birding details.

If you wish to subscribe to COBOL go to <https://groups.io/g/COBOL/>. At the bottom of the page you will see a link to subscribe. If you are not a groups.io member you will have to set up a user ID and password for groups.io. When you subscribe to COBOL you will be sent a confirmation email to the email address you provided when you subscribed. Make sure you respond to that email. Make sure you check your SPAM folder for that email if you don't receive the email. If you have any questions on joining the list I can be emailed at [tjlawler@crestviewcable.com](mailto:tjlawler@crestviewcable.com) and will help you out.

## **DO YOU HAVE TIME TO LEND A HAND TO VOLUNTEER?**

*By Mardi Jensen*

ECAS has many different tasks where VOLUNTEERS are needed:

- Even if you are a beginning bird observer or new to the greater Bend area, you may like to “discover” our area by going as a group member to help clean out bird nest boxes or even construct bird boxes in the comfort of your garage.
- Want to lead birding trips? Opportunities for this activity abound in Spring and Fall.
- Thinking about being a citizen scientist? World Migratory Bird Day occurs in May and bird surveyors are needed.
- Are you a handy-outdoorsy do it yourself person? You could join a team working to protect owls, other birds and wildlife by screening outhouse vents on forest service and BLM land.
- Are you more of an executive, financial type person? You could help by being on ECAS's Board of Directors and perhaps even Treasurer.
- Do you love children and education? Earth day is coming up April 20th, your help is needed at ECAS's booth during this event or you could volunteer for other events involving children.

You can access a volunteer enrollment form from our website- [www.ecaudubon.org](http://www.ecaudubon.org). Click on “contact/volunteer” in the menu bar at the top, then “volunteer” in the drop down menu. You can send the form online by filling it out on the website and then clicking on “submit” at the bottom of the form. Or you can download the form, fill it out and mail it to: ECAS, PO Box 565, Bend, OR 97709.

If you are already an ECAS PROGRAM OR PROJECT LEADER, let me know specifically what your needs are for volunteers including:

- The time commitment required of the volunteer.
- The tasks a volunteer would be doing and the number and kind of volunteers needed.
- The location, dates and time you for which you need volunteers.

Contact: Mardi Jensen ECAS Volunteer Coordinator [donmardi@bendbroadband.com](mailto:donmardi@bendbroadband.com)

**ECAS and the birds THANK YOU!**

## **Annual Summer Lake Shorebird Survey**

*by Mardi Jensen, volunteer coordinator, and Mike Bogar, leader*

**Objective:** Count of the number and distribution of breeding shorebirds at Summer Lake Wildlife Area. We will systematically cover all of the wetland units and determine the magnitude by species and location.

**Date:** June 8 & 9, 2019 – You can arrive the night before or even come down for the day.

**Requirements:** We are looking for birders who can count and identify the breeding species found on the Wildlife Area (killdeer, snowy plover, long-billed curlew, willet, Am. avocet, black-necked stilt, spotted sandpiper, Wilson’s phalarope and Wilson’s snipe). The numerical count by location or area is most important.

**Accommodation:** The small bunkhouse is not available this year, although you can camp or park an RV, or pay to stay in the lodge.

**Dogs are not allowed.** This is the peak of nesting season and the presence of dogs would be very disturbing to breeding birds. Even the most well behaved and best of controlled dogs could cause problems with eggs and/or chicks.

**Registration:** Please email **Mike Bogar** [mike@avinord.net](mailto:mike@avinord.net) to sign up. If you are an inexperienced birder, you will be able to accompany more experienced people and learn the birds.

**The birds:** Apart from the shorebirds, this is the prime season to see Summer Lake, a fantastic area to bird. There is plenty of time to explore the immediate area for desert birds and Winter Ridge for forest birds. There are lots of Bitterns, Cranes, Egrets, Night Herons, White Pelicans and Terns. We have found some unusual birds in the past couple of years: Great-Tailed Grackle, Franklin's Gull, Wandering Tattler, Sanderling, Whimbrel, Red Phalarope and Yellow Rail.



## **WELCOME Latest ECAS Member Additions**

Liza Cannon	Bend, OR
Carrie Ebner	Bend, OR
William Jenkins	Bend, OR
Jeff & Liz Jones	Bend, OR
Mike/Lauri Macy/Adams	Bend, OR
Morgan Maier	Bend, OR
Mark & Karen Stanard	Bend, OR
Larry Thornburgh	Redmond, OR
Carol Utterberg	Portland, OR

# Winter Field Notes – 2018-2019

*By Chuck Gates*

This winter was marked by mild temperatures at the beginning and a huge snow storm at the end. These conditions created hardships and opportunities for local birders (not to mention the birds!). Below is a summary of some of the more unusual bird reports in Central Oregon.

Water birds are a staple of winter avifauna here. SNOW GEESE were recorded at Hatfield Lk. (Low), Tumalo State Park (Gonzalez), Redmond Sewer Ponds (Sizoo, Burgess) and the Crooked R. Wetlands (Miller). Reports of CACKLING GEESE were received from Hatfield Lk. (Low), O'Neal Valley (Vick) and Gosney Rd. near Bend (Low). The only wild TRUMPETER SWAN seen in the area was along the Crooked R. east of Prineville (Gates). EURASIAN WIGEON were located at the Old Mill in Bend (Kruse) and at Haystack Reservoir (Miller). A single SURF SCOTER spent much of the winter at the Pelton Overlook near Warm Springs (Gates). COMMON LOONS were scattered throughout the region in early December but were absent the rest of the season. Very few grebes were noted by any source.

Game Birds and raptors struggle together to make it through each winter. MOUNTAIN QUAIL were heard calling at the Deschutes Campground at Lake Billy Chinook (Smith) and others got a chance to hear as well. It was a good winter for NORTHERN GOSHAWK as individuals were found in Bend (Redd, Low, Moodie), Plainview (Gesualdo, Keene), Prineville (Adkins) and Sisters (Hall). RED-SHOULDERED HAWKS were tallied at Metolius (Smith), Redmond (Drzyzgula) and Bend (Jett, Gonzalez). PEREGRINE FALCONS were spotted at Pelton Overlook (Gates), near Culver (Crabtree), Bend Old Mill area (Cahill) and the Crooked River Canyon (Gonzalez). A very rare **GYRFALCON** was seen briefly by Tom Crabtree NW of Culver while doing a Winter Raptor Survey. A BARN OWL was photographed at the Crooked R. Wetlands (Crabtree) and a WESTERN SCREECH-OWL was located in Bend (Gonzalez). BARRED OWL reports came in from Bend (Yanalcanlin, Boever), Powell Butte (Howard fide) and Sisters (Tackmier).

Passerines impress us by their ability to survive Central Oregon's harshest winters. Several reports of ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRDS came in even during the coldest spells. SAY'S PHOEBES usually move out before the winter season, but several were found this year during December (Jett, Scrantons). Even more unusual, winter BLACK PHOEBES were recorded for the first time in Central Oregon at the Crooked R. Wetlands (Authier) and Pelton Overlook (Gates fide). Around the end of the year, a BARN SWALLOW began being seen at the Crooked R. Wetlands (Miller) and it stayed most of the rest of the winter. Northern Shrike are generally present but a LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE near Paulina was unusual (Gates, McAtee). A well described BEWICK'S WREN made a brief appearance in a Sisters yard (Crofton) and ROCK WRENS were seen at Haystack Reservoir (Gates fide) and Mecca Flats near Warm Springs (Moodie). No fewer than 4 HERMIT THRUSHES were tallied on the Madras CBC, with the majority coming from Warm Springs (Gates, Golden, Sutherland, Wolfe). A smattering of YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLERS were found throughout the winter including on the Prineville CBC (Meredith, Zalunardo). Once fairly rare, SAVANNAH SPARROWS are now showing up

more frequently in our winter season (this year reported from all three counties). It was exciting to have multiple SWAMP SPARROWS at the Crooked R. Wetlands for several rare Crook County records (Miller, Adamus). WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS were spotted in Bend (Horvath, Low) and Sisters (Schas). There seemed to be a good number of HARRIS'S SPARROWS around as sightings came in from multiple locations around Prineville (Gates fide, Horvath) and Bend (Virts, Horvath, Crabtree, Moodie). As expected, the big snow brought LAPLAND LONGSPURS in from up north and multiple birds were found near Brothers (Jett, Tinsley) and a single was heard at Glaze Meadow (M. Miller). Eight GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCHES were spotted at Smith Rock (Hankyu) and TRICOLORED BLACKBIRDS were tallied multiple times north of Prineville.

#### OBSERVERS

David Vick, Matt Cahill, Craig Miller, Mark Gonzalez, Judy Meredith, Chuck Gates, Courtney Jett, Pam Scranton, Chris Scranton, Jim Moodie, June McAtee, Mike Golden, Cindy Zalunardo, Diane Burgess, Marilyn Miller, Tom Crabtree, Bob Authier, Bob Sizoo, Howard Horvath, David Vick, Mary Ann Kruse, Kevin Smith, Scott Redd, Dan Gesualdo, Laura Keene, Aaron Adkins, Cathy Drzyzgula, Mary Yanalcanlin, Nancy Boever, Kristen Tackmier, Clay Crofton, Don Sutherland, Walt Wolfe, Paul Adamus, Jake Schas, Joel Tinsley, Charlene Virts

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Birding for Preschoolers

*by Mary Yanalcanlin*



Meet at 10:00 AM Monday mornings in Drake Park in Bend. This is a birding and nature walk geared towards preschoolers, but all ages are welcome. Exploration, singing, finger plays, observation, learning, questioning...it's all part of a fun-filled hour. Meet near the middle of the park by the restrooms. Parent or responsible caretaker is required to accompany the child. Come join us for the whole hour or feel free to leave early if

necessary for your child's needs and interest. Contact Mary Yanalcanlin [birdingfun@gmail.com](mailto:birdingfun@gmail.com) if you have questions

## Birding by Ear

*by Dave Tracy*

The East Cascades Audubon Society kicked off another season of Birding By Ear guided bird walks on March 5, 2019. Dave Tracy leads walks **each Tuesday through mid-June**, and we enjoy seeing what migrants show up over the course of the spring season.

We'll meet at **Sawyer Park** along the Deschutes River starting at **8:00am** ([view a map](#)): Attendance is FREE and all ages, and skill levels are welcome to attend. Bring your binoculars and be prepared for variable weather, so dress warm with gloves and appropriate footwear. Typical time and distances will vary, but generally the walk will be 1.5 to 3 miles long and last about 1.5 to 2 hours. Our objective is for all to have an enjoyable time and get to know our local birds better, by sight as well as by ear. We will focus early on getting to know the relatively small number of resident and wintering birds and then share the excitement as we



note the arrival of neotropical migrant wrens, vireos, swallows, swifts and others. The morning chorus will fill the air with song over the next few months, and knowing the bird vocalizations adds another level of enjoyment and strengthens our connection to nature as we soak in this wonderful seasonal phenomenon. Contact **Dave Tracy** for more information. Tel (541) 390-9931

## Spring 2019 Wednesday Birders

*by Judy Meredith*



- April 3 - Hatfield and Powell Butte
- April 10 - Detroit area for shorebirds, grouse, quail
- April 17 - Lower Bridge, Terrebonne, Lone Pine, Smith Rock
- April 24 - shorebirds, CRW, Redmond, Hatfield
- May 1 - Millican area, VERY early start, grouse, thrasher
- May 8 - high lakes, all day
- May 15 - woodpeckers, burns near Sisters
- May 16 **Thursday** - Birding in Madras with Noah Stryker
- May 22 - Calliope Crossing, etc, songbirds and woodpeckers
- May 29 - more scouting for woodpeckers, location TBD
- June 5 - woodpeckers, post festival finds, let's get all 11!
- June 12 - Malheur, early start, long day, may opt for overnight
- June 19 - Green Ridge, Camp Sherman

Meet up with others in our intrepid group for local birding. We meet at [Nancy P's Bakery](#) on Newport Avenue just east of Newport Market in Bend. From there we depart on weekly half day or full day trips to venues in our area. Meet-up times are **usually 8AM** in Winter and early Spring. Trip plans are posted on [COBOL](#) each week prior to the trip. Transportation is via carpool depending on who can drive and individual schedules. Dress for the weather; be prepared with food, sunscreen, etc; and bring a pair of binoculars; spotting scopes are helpful on many trips. Contact Judy Meredith [jmeredit@bendnet.com](mailto:jmeredit@bendnet.com) for more information.

## ECAS Partners with the Old Mill for Bird Walks

*by Sherrie Pierce*

In 2013 a collaboration began with the [Old Mill District](#) and the [East Cascades Audubon Society](#) to offer bi-weekly bird walks to the public **every other Friday** during the Spring. This year they are scheduled for **April 5 and 19, May 3 and 17**.

These free two-hour walks are guided by ECAS volunteers who will take participants on an exploration of the migratory corridor that runs along the Deschutes River. The Old Mill District is located on 270 acres that formerly housed one of the largest sawmill operations in the world. The rich history of the land is coupled with spectacular mountain views, scenic river vistas and an extensive trail system to enjoy the outdoors.



Following these riverside trails, the walks will provide an opportunity to see a wide range of bird species as they prepare for warmer weather with nesting and migration. We'll be especially looking for the return of the swallows and osprey! Walks are appropriate for all ages and interested parties, from novices to experienced avian experts. Groups will meet at **10 am at the Ticket Mill in the core of the Old Mill District**, where binoculars provided by Leupold are available for checkout. Participants can also pick up a specially designed birding list to help identify birds and some common animals seen along the walk.

# **ECAS Spring and Summer Field Trips**

*by Mary Shivell, Field Trip Coordinator*

**04/06/2019 Desert Birds to Wild Geese**, led by Howard Horvath 6am-6pm

**05/24/2019 Smith Rock State Park**

Interpretive hike led by retired Park Naturalist David Vick will provide an inside view of the Park's rich natural and cultural history. Topics will include the dramatic geological events that created the landscape, native plants and their traditional uses, and great views of nesting raptors. Nesting Bald and Golden Eagles will be observed, with the possibility of other species such as Peregrine and Prairie Falcons, songbirds and White-Throated Swifts. Physical demand: moderate with hiking on level and uneven ground with grade changes.

**05/04/2019 Crooked River Wetlands Complex**

Explore this exciting and new hotspot with Charles Gates. Possibilities include good looks at shorebirds, waterfowl, Tri-Colored Blackbird and many more. Physical demand: easy with walking approximately 3 miles on flat paved paths.

**04/06/2019 Desert Birds to Wild Geese**

Bird the desert sage with Howard Horvath. This excursion will begin along Highway 20 East of Bend and continue to the Harmon Road area, then on to Burns for White Geese and many other species. Physical demand: this will be a full day of birding (12 hours) since carpooling is required from the meetup location at 5:45 am.

**June 2019 Kayaking the High Lakes** with Diane Burgess (Details TBD)

ECAS members will be informed of field trips using a current ECAS membership list via a link to an automated computer sign up. Only members will receive the emails. Members will be notified six weeks prior to the field trip, and will generally have one week priority to sign up before the trip is opened up to the general public. If the trip does not fill by three weeks prior to the trip, then other means of notifying the general public can be used (COBOL, Facebook and an open access link on the ECAS website). One email will be sent for each trip. Registration closes 2 days prior to the trip.

For additional information, see the ECAS website Trips/Events, ECAS Field Trips, at [www.ecaudubon.org/field-trips](http://www.ecaudubon.org/field-trips)

Questions? [mvshivell@gmail.com](mailto:mvshivell@gmail.com)

# ECAS Spring Birders' Nights

*by Sue Bertsch*

Join us every third Thursday of the month at the Environmental Center in Bend. There's time for coffee and conversation with other Birders, beautiful slideshows and informative presentations on a wide range of topics.

**Location:** [The Environmental Center](#), 16 NW Kansas, Bend, Oregon 97701

**Time:** Social gathering time at 6:30 pm. Programs 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm

**Cost:** Free and open to the public. You do not need to be a member of any group to attend

For more information contact Sue Bertsch [lindasuebertsch@gmail.com](mailto:lindasuebertsch@gmail.com)

## April 18: Patti Van Vlack, Hummingbirds



“When I was a small child my Grandmother gave me a book and record of common birds. I lived on a small farm at the time and it opened my eyes to the world of birds. My favorite was the Ruby-throated Hummingbird. We had no hummingbirds at all and I could hardly wait to see this tiny jewel. It was 2005 before I got to see the Ruby-throated Hummingbird. I went to work for Sunriver Nature Center in rehabbing raptors. People would



bring in injured hummingbirds and I took over the care of them and my love grew for these tiny creatures. I wanted to share all I learned and so the program was developed.”

## May 16: Dylan Brandt, Birding on Safari in South Africa

<http://www.brandtsafaris.com/>

Dylan Brandt is an Expedition Leader and African specialist safari travel planner at Completely Unique Safaris where he is also the Managing Director. He has earned a set of credentials that put him among just a handful of guides in Africa, including Special Knowledge & Skills (SKS) in Birds, which is the highest birding based qualification in Africa. Dylan won numerous accolades in the Safari Guide of the



Year competition in 2012 including best birder: a week-long practical assessment among high-performing guides, each nominated by their peers to compete, in a competition held in South Africa's Kruger National Park. Dylan is also a published photographer and has been capturing images of wildlife and local people since before he became a guide.

### June 20: Jerry Freilich, Bees

Jerry Freilich was, until his recent retirement, Research Coordinator at Olympic National Park and Director of the North Coast & Cascades Science Learning Network. He is a Philadelphia native who started his career as Curatorial Assistant at the Academy of Natural Sciences at 11 years old. He has a masters in Environmental Education from Cornell University and a PhD in aquatic entomology from the University of Georgia. Since 1978 he's worked at six national parks all around the US as a ranger, naturalist, and research scientist. He's worked on insect biodiversity studies especially bees since 1996.



Most people can name perhaps three or four kinds of bees. They are incredulous to learn that there are actually close to 4,000 species of native bees in North America and this does not include honey bees (which are non-native). Jerry Freilich is an entomologist who recently retired as Olympic National Park's research coordinator. One of his most recent projects was an effort to

find and identify as many bee species as possible in the park. This talk will explain why bees are such a challenge. Most are tiny, fast-flying and inconspicuous. They go about their jobs, don't interact with people, and generally fly below human radar. Jerry's very interested in the birds and bees, aren't you?

# ECAS Annual Event

*By Tom Lawler*

The Annual Event! As many of our members are aware the ECAS Board decided to try something different for 2018's Annual Event. We still honored the Conservationist and Volunteer of the year and had Chuck Gates put on the Year-in-Review. We had a great speaker who talked about Shorebirds and incorporated a class on Shorebird Identification the following day. We also had a small raffle. What we did not do is have a large Silent Auction and large quantities of food and drink. Some of our membership may be wondering why we did this and what we have in mind for 2019.

The Annual Event has been barely making money for the last couple of years. The rental of the Senior Center and the cost of the food left us making a few hundred dollars at most. In the meantime the number of people volunteering to help with the event has dwindled basically leaving the Board and a few of our members to put on the event. Raffle ticket sales have continued to fall and items in the Silent Auction were not bringing in substantial amounts of money.

What are we going to try to do this year? The Board strongly feels that the reason for the Annual Event is for attendees to honor ECAS Volunteers and enjoy the Year-in-Review. To that end we are going to try something different this year. This year the event will be held on **October's Birders Night (the 17th)** at the Environmental Center. We will utilize both rooms and have refreshments and membership in the smaller room and the presentations in the larger room. Once again the Board will provide all the treats and refreshments. It will be a time to socialize and honor those who help ECAS accomplish its mission. We will also use this event as our Annual Business Meeting to elect Board members.

We will also be working with the Sunriver Nature Center to have a speaker at the SHARC. Last year's joint event with Noah Strycker was a success. We are working with the Nature Center to bring in another speaker for everyone to enjoy. The date for this event is still to be determined but will likely be in September or early October.

I think you will find that many Audubon Societies do not have the type of event that ECAS was putting on for many years. Some just have a gathering (like we are going to try this year) and a few have extravagant events that charge members to attend. Some don't do anything! If you have ideas on what you would like the Annual Event to be please feel free to contact me and express your ideas. If you would like to help out with the Annual Event or even organize the event please contact Mardi Jensen, our Volunteer Coordinator.

The Board hopes to see you at this year's event.

## Harney County Migratory Bird Festival



This long-running festival will be **April 11-14**th this year. For more information:  
<https://www.migratorybirdfestival.com/>

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## Jefferson County Community Read with Noah Stryker

**May 16-18**

Go to <http://www.jcld.org/CRP-2019.html> for more information.

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## Sunriver Nature Center Saturday Bird Walks



Walk with us on the wild side! Join Tom Lawler, expert local birder and nature photographer, to discover the rich bird habitats of Sunriver. With Tom's keen eye and guidance, you will spot and learn to identify a variety of species found in the wetlands, meadows, and forests surrounding the Nature Center. Whether you are new to birding or an experienced birder, there is always something exciting to see through your binoculars!

Early registration is strongly encouraged and participation is limited to 12 birders. Expect to walk approximately three to four miles along various trails. Please no strollers or dogs. Wear sturdy and water-resistant footwear and bring a bottle of water and a pair of binoculars with you. Bird walks are geared toward adults, however children with a serious interest in birding are welcome with a parent/guardian. **Call to verify there is a walk and to register: (541)593-4394** (\$4/SNCO member; \$5/non-member) The Nature Center is located at 57245 River Road in Sunriver.



<http://www.sunrivernaturecenter.org/index.php/visit-the-nature-center/our-programs/sunriver-birding>

## **Malheur Volunteer Opportunities**

*By Janelle Wicks, Director of Friends of Malheur Refuge*

### **Pollinator-palooza in 2019 - VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED!**

We are in the final stages of our long-awaited Pollinator Garden that will be going in the ground this spring! Volunteers can join us for one or both work party weekends:

**April 13th & 14th** - We will spend the weekend building and setting the raised garden beds for the Pollinator Garden. This will require light to medium physical ability and use of hand and power tools. Volunteers will have the opportunity to stay on site at the Refuge Fire Bunkhouse the nights of April 12th, 13th and 14th. This is a special treat, as lodging is a scarcity during the Annual Harney County Migratory Bird Festival! [Sign-Up NOW!](#)

**May 4th & 5th** - Finally, the plants will be planted! A weekend of gardening on behalf of the pollinators will include some light lifting, bending, squatting, etc. These plants will attract and support native pollinators and bring joy and exploration to Refuge visitors. Again, volunteers will have the chance to enjoy an overnight stay in the Fire Bunkhouse at Refuge HQ. [Sign-Up NOW!](#)

If you are interested in volunteering this spring, or have general questions about volunteering at Malheur Refuge, please contact us at [friends@malheurfriends.org](mailto:friends@malheurfriends.org).

# EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY

*P.O. Box 565, Bend, Oregon 97701*

[www.ecaudubon.org](http://www.ecaudubon.org)

## ECAS Board

President	Tom Lawler
Vice-President	Diana Roberts
Secretary	Diane Burgess
Treasurer	Terri Hyde
Board Members	Tom Penpraze Carolyn Rochelle Bob Sizoo
Non-Board Officer Assistant Treasurer	John Brune

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

## Spring Board Meetings:

April 2  
May 7  
June 4

## Committee and Event Chairs

Annual Event	ECAS Board
Bluebirds	Ken Hashagen
Birder's Night	Sue Bertsch
Communications	Diana Roberts
Conservation	Tom Lawler
Education	Sherrie Pierce
Field Trips	Mary Shivell
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
birds	
Science	Ken Hashagen
Summer Lake Survey	Mike Bogar
Vaux's Swifts	Bob Johnson Mary Ann Kruse
Volunteers	Mardi Jensen Sherrie Pierce
Website	Ted Groszkiewicz
Wednesday Birders	Judy Meredith Howard Horvath

Board meetings are held at **1pm** on the **first Tuesday** of the month at the **Environmental Center**. All members are welcome to attend. Board minutes and upcoming meeting dates are posted at [www.ecaudubon.org](http://www.ecaudubon.org).

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

of the Central Oregon region at [www.ecaudubon.org](http://www.ecaudubon.org)