



# Audubon Society of Corvallis the **CHAT**

April 2014

VOL. 43

#8

## General Meeting

Thursday, April 17, 7:00-8:30 pm  
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
2945 NW Circle Blvd

### Lions and Tigers and Bears, Oh My!: Loss of large carnivores poses global conservation problem

*A presentation by Bill Ripple*

In ecosystems around the world, the decline of large predators such as lions, dingoes, tigers, wolves, and bears is changing the face of landscapes. Threats such as habitat loss, persecution by humans, and loss of prey combine to create global hotspots of carnivore decline. Bill Ripple, our speaker in April

will summarize how large carnivores are declining across the globe. With collapsing ranges, many of these animals are at risk of extinction, either locally or globally.



*Cougar photo by Bill Ripple*

Ironically, they are vanishing just as scientists are learning about their ecological importance. Bill will highlight 7 species that have been studied for their widespread effects or “trophic cascades.” These include African lions, leopards, Eurasian lynx, cougars, gray wolves, sea otters and dingoes.

Dr. Ripple will also update us on his recent research with Dr. Robert Beschta in Yellowstone National Park. He will describe how the return of wolves to Yellowstone National Park is beginning to bring back a key part of the



*Grizzly Bear photo courtesy of Yellowstone National Park*

grizzly bear diet that has been missing for much of the past century—berries that help bears put on fat before going into hibernation.

He and Dr. Beschta found that the level of berries consumed by Yellowstone grizzlies is significantly higher now that shrubs are starting to recover following the re-introduction of wolves, which have reduced over-browsing by elk herds. The berry bushes also produce flowers of value to pollinators like butterflies, insects and hummingbirds; food for other small and large mammals; and special benefits to birds.

Bill Ripple is a Professor of Forest Ecosystems and Society at Oregon State University (OSU) and Director of the Trophic Cascades Program. For the last 15 years, his research focus has been on the ecological effects of large

### In This Issue

Field Trip Schedule	62
President’s Corner/ Campbell Award	62-63
Hesthavn News	63
Birding By Ear	63
Conservation Corner	64
Field Notes	64-66
Birdathon Time	66-67
Book Chat	67
Board Mtg. Summary	67

carnivores. Dr. Ripple was recently appointed as an OSU Distinguished Professor—the highest form of recognition to an OSU faculty member, conferred upon two top professors each year.

**IMPORTANT NOTE. For this month only the chapter meeting will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis, at 2945 NW Circle Boulevard. Our usual venue, the First United Presbyterian Church, canceled our reservation for April 17 because they needed the room that night. For further information contact Chris Mathews, Vice President, ASC, at 541-754-1172 or [mathewsc2@comcast.net](mailto:mathewsc2@comcast.net).**

*See you there!*

Doors open at 6:30 pm for refreshments and visiting. The chapter meeting commences at 7:00 pm, followed by the guest lecture at 7:30 pm. Questions about the series can be directed to Chris Mathews [mathewsc2@comcast.net](mailto:mathewsc2@comcast.net) or 541-757-7953.

## Field Trip Schedule

### Local Monthly Second Saturday Field Trips

*Attention: The Klamath Trip dates have been changed from 4/18-21 to 4/25-28*

- April 25-28 Klamath Basin wildlife refuges
- May 9-11 Rogue Valley, with a performance of the Marx Brothers classic *Cocoanuts* at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival
- June 5-8 Malheur National Wildlife Refuge
- June 27-29 Summer, Agency & Crater Lakes
- July 9-13 The Wallows
- Aug 14-17 Steens & Hart Mountains
- Sept 5-7 Return to Bandon for shorebirds

*Fred Ramsey*

### Half Day Field Trips

Our Saturday morning local field trip meets the second Saturday of from September through June at the Benton Center parking area, behind the Cannery Mall, 777 NW 9th St., Corvallis at 7:30 am.

This field trip is geared towards beginning birders, birders new to Oregon's mid-valley area and persons looking for a pleasant outing. Contact Bill Proebsting at [proebstw@gmail.com](mailto:proebstw@gmail.com) or 541-752-0108 with questions. Check the Midvalley ListServ, <http://www.midvalleybirding.org/pipermail/birding/>, a couple of days before the field trip for updates. Weather may alter plans. Watch the weather forecast and dress appropriately. Return to Benton Center by noon.

### Upcoming Field Trips

- April 12 E.E. Wilson State Wildlife Area.

*Bill Proebsting*

## President's Corner

The Homer Campbell ASC Environmental Award, established in 2005, recognizes a local individual or organization that has made significant contributions in the areas of environmental stewardship, awareness, and outreach. Our 2014 winner, Rana Foster, is an outstanding representative of these qualities.

A friend and fellow activist, Reed Wilson, says of Rana: "Rana's strength is her persistence and irrepresible curiosity in investigating public lands timber sales. Where a concerned citizen might read the Environmental Assessment and submit comments, Rana will request the Silvicultural Report, the Biological Assessment, the Wildlife Report, the Soils Report, the Plant Surveys, and on. Rana will request reports that agency employees don't even know exist until they search the warehouse. She will read these and pose questions for each, until the agency refuses to respond to her emails and restricts her to phone calls which they will not answer. She is incredibly perceptive in the forest, hears every bird and sees every plant or insect, not only sees them but how they interact, and with her creative mind, understands cause and effect better than most naturalists."

Rana grew up in Oregon, Illinois and British Columbia and her parents gave their kids every opportunity to get outside and play, exploring on their own or going fishing or cross country skiing. Family trips between Oregon and Illinois always included stops at special places, such as Craters of the Moon, Pine Mountain, Steens Mountain and Fort Rock. Rana remembers an early archeology class at Peavy Arboretum, where "it was a total eye opener to the science of anthropology and extra exciting for anyone young to find ancient and important things in dirt". Her home in Illinois had a prairie meadow nearby, with a profusion of wildflowers, birds, butterflies and other insects.

Rana has an MS in Environmental Soil Science from OSU, a BS in Natural Science from Western Oregon University, an Associate of Science from LBCC and an Associate of Arts in the culinary arts management program from LBCC. Her Masters' project explored using historic land survey data for present day landowners as a tool for restoring native biodiversity using local botanic ecology, on Jackson-Frazier Creek. Audubon Society of Corvallis and the greater Corvallis community have benefited greatly from Rana's commitment to doing everything she can to help environmental causes. She has transplanted many plants that would've been destroyed by development, placing many at the Hesthavn Sanctuary or other protected places. She has advocated for planting and distribution of showy milkweed, to benefit monarch butterflies. She has been the Refreshment chair for ASC, and has helped arrange and staff public conservation events for ASC, such as the planting parties at Finley and special evening presentations.

Rana has attended countless public meetings about

conservation issues, often providing refreshments. She has written and submitted countless letters and comments on timber sales, development and other conservation issues. She is an instrumental member of the Benton Forest Coalition, a group which promotes awareness of local public native forests by offering hikes and information on environmental concerns regarding state and federal forest land.

Rana has also been an Associate Director for the Benton Soil and Water Conservation District for many years. She has volunteered to search for red tree vole nests in federal forests and to find and measure legacy trees on our public lands.

As a tireless advocate for environmental causes and the protection of plants and animals, we are pleased to recognize Rana Foster as the 2014 recipient of the Homer Campbell Environmental Award.

*Board of Directors*

## Hesthavn News

March was an active month for Hesthavn volunteers. On Saturday March 1 OSU GEO 300 students Brad Hall, Rex Putnam, Jason Ganub, Justin Huddleston, and Garrett Clay came paid a visit to Hesthavn and put in four hours of hard work. Two worked with Susan Brown to spread mulch on the native plant gardens next to the barn and the other three headed out to the far side of the creek to pull Yellow Archangel.



*OSU GEO 300 students at Hesthavn*

Yellow Archangel is an extremely aggressive weed plant that actually is still sold as ground cover at nurseries. We had a large thick patch that was spreading fast. The GEO 300 gentlemen managed to pull about 10 garbage bags worth of the Yellow Archangel, which are bound for the dump. Apparently this weed is so aggressive it is not even advisable to compost it. Many thanks to these fellows for their hard work.

In the mean-time you may have seen Audubon volunteers Karl Hartzell and John Criscitiello on the front page of your *Gazette-Times* installing a new handicap ramp at

Hesthavn. The old one was not faring too well and had actually rotted through at a couple locations. Karl is hoping that this new ramp will last for another 15 to 20 years.

## Hesthavn Work Parties

There is a work party on Saturday April 19 and Saturday May 10. Both work parties will be from 9am to 1pm. Agendas have yet to be formulated and will depend in part on how the season develops, but almost certainly we will work some on barn-yard and parking lot care. In May we will probably work in weeding around the caged plants and the control of some or all of these weeds: thistle, Teasel, False Brome, and Yellow Archangel.

*Ray Drapek*

## Birding by Ear 3-week class

Sponsored by the Audubon Society of Corvallis and Corvallis Environmental Center (CEC). Instructed by Don Boucher and Lisa Millbank. Classroom sessions are held at the Avery House at Avery Park.

Space is limited. If you have other questions about the course, you can contact the instructors, Don Boucher & Lisa Millbank, [bouchdon@peak.org](mailto:bouchdon@peak.org).

Cost is \$36. and registration is required. [www.corvallisenvironmentalcenter.org](http://www.corvallisenvironmentalcenter.org)

Birding by ear will take your birding ability to the next level, especially in forested areas where birds are difficult to see. During the classroom sessions, we don't try to memorize lists of bird sounds; instead, we learn methods to help remember bird sounds, and get a basic understanding of the ways in which birds use sound to communicate. It's intended to be fun and interesting. Classroom sessions will feature lots of videos and sound clips. During the field trips, there will be listening exercises and many opportunities to practice the techniques learned in class. You'll be amazed by how many birds you'll find by just listening. You should already be familiar with common local birds to take this class.

The field trips will focus on habitats: wetland (Jackson-Frazier Wetland), grassland & savanna (Finley NWR), and forest (McDonald Forest and Hesthavn Nature Center). We'll be enjoying the spring bird sounds at their peak.

**Wednesday, May 21**, classroom session at Avery House Nature Center, 7pm - 9pm

**Saturday, May 24**, local field trip 9am - noon

**Wednesday, May 28**, classroom session at Avery House Nature Center, 7pm - 9pm

**Saturday, May 31**, local field trip 9am - noon

**Wednesday, June 4**, classroom session at Avery House Nature Center, 7pm - 9pm

**Saturday, June 7**, local field trip 9am - noon

*Don Boucher and Lisa Millbank*

## Conservation Corner

### From ABC News:

Landmark Arizona Birding Property Saved by Purchase - One of Best U.S. Sites for Hummingbirds Protected by Contributions from 1,000+ Birders

Paton's Birder Haven, southeast Arizona's mecca for thousands of birders worldwide, is now assured of long-term protection following a successful and spirited international fundraising campaign. American Bird Conservancy (ABC), Tucson Audubon Society, and Victor Emanuel Nature Tours worked together to raise the funds to acquire the historic property.

More than 1,000 bird-lovers—many former visitors to the Paton property—answered the call for contributions, with several of them recounting their memories of the site and donating as a way of paying tribute. For more details please see [www.abcbirds.org/newsandreports/releases/140220a.html](http://www.abcbirds.org/newsandreports/releases/140220a.html).

## Field Notes

2/28/14-3/26/14

The general area covered by the field notes is a rough circle centered on Corvallis, extending just past Lebanon, Monroe/Harrisburg, Marys Peak and the nearby Coast Range, and Monmouth/Dallas.

While swallows, shorebirds and other migrants were appearing in our area, many resident birds were already singing, displaying and beginning nest construction. Pleasant springtime temperatures coaxed early wildflowers into bloom.

Location abbreviations: Ankeny = Ankeny National Wildlife Refuge, EEW = E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area, Finley = William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge, LSNA = Luckiamute State Natural Area, Philomath STP = Philomath sewage treatment ponds, Stewart Lake = lake on Hewlett-Packard campus in Corvallis, TWG/SP = Talking Water Gardens & Simpson Park in Albany

Observer abbreviations: Don Boucher (DB), Pam Comeleo (PCo), Randy Comeleo (RCo), Barbara Dolan (BD), Lukas Ferrenburg (LF), Jeff Fleischer (JFI), Andrea Foster (AF), Niels Garlick (NG), Becky Geier (BG), Joel Geier (JG), Martha Geier (MG), Roy Gerig (RG), Julie Gibson (JGb), Jeff Harding (JH), Oscar Harper (OH), Hendrik Herlyn (HH), Adrian Hinkle (AH), Christopher Hinkle (CH), Deb Holland (DH), Charlotte Hottmann (CHm), Tim Johnson (TJ), Karin Lamberson (KL), Chris Lauman (CL), Mike Lippsmeyer (ML), Sarah McCarty (SM), Lisa Millbank (LM), Molly Monroe (MM), Lars Per Norgren (LPN), Kelsey O'Sullivan (KO), Pam Otley (PO), Bill Proebsting (BP), Mary Ratcliff (MR), Doug Robinson (DR), Em Scattaregia (ES), Jim Scott (JSc), Steve Seibel (SS), Jamie Simmons (JS), Viviane Simon-Brown (VSB), Jim Smith (JSm), Max Smith (MS), Sarah Swanson (SSw),

Will Wright (WW)

A few small flocks of **Greater White-fronted Geese** were still being observed at Ankeny, Finley and other wetlands this period, and large numbers should pass through our area near the end of April. A single **Ross's Goose** was at Finley this period (WW, AH, CH, JS) and another was at Ankeny 3/20 (AH, CH, ES). **Snow Geese** continued to be present as single birds or small groups at Finley and Ankeny, but 1 was at Arthur Slough in Linn Co 3/2 (JS, AH, CH). One adult **Brant** was found among **Cackling Geese** and "Dusky" **Canada Geese** 3/13 (MM), and persisted for at least a few days. A **Trumpeter Swan** was seen at Ankeny through the end of the period, later than most Trumpeters stay in the valley. It may have been injured. Another Trumpeter was among a flock of **Tundra Swans** along American Dr in Linn Co 3/9 (KO, LF). A pair of **Wood Ducks** were gobbling up bread at the duck pond at Starker Arts Park in Corvallis this period (LM, DB). Wintering ducks will begin to leave the valley during the next period, but large concentrations of **American Wigeons**, **Mallards**, **Northern Shovelers**, **Northern Pintails** and **Green-winged Teal** were still present this period. A male **Eurasian Wigeon** was reported from an American Wigeon flock at Finley 3/22 (PO). A few **Cinnamon Teal** showed up this period, presumably at least some were migrants to augment the few individuals that were reported throughout the winter. The last observation of **Canvasback** at Stewart Lake was 2 on 2/28 (JS), and 3 were in a gravel pond along Eicher Rd in Linn Co 3/23 (JFI). 2 **Greater Scaup** were at Ankeny 3/18 (RG) and 3/20 (AH, CH, ES), along with about 20 **Lesser Scaup**. About a dozen **Buffleheads** and 100 **Ruddy Ducks** were on a gravel pond on Eicher Rd in Linn Co 3/23 (JFI). **Common Goldeneyes** were noted at several locations; 1 E of Finley 3/2 (DR), 1 at Philomath STP 3/6 (CH, AH), and 2 at Ankeny 3/24 (SM). 2 **Hooded Mergansers** were on Cronemiller Lake in McDonald Forest 3/21 (JGb).

5 **Mountain Quail** were noted in McDonald Forest 3/20 (DR). 1 **Ring-necked Pheasant** was in the Sulphur Springs area of McDonald Forest 3/15 (DR), and another was on the prairie at Finley 3/23 (DR). 2 **Ruffed Grouse** were found in the Fitton Green area 3/23 (BP). 2 **Wild Turkey** toms displayed for 3 hens at Witham Hill 3/8 (AF), and some were gobbling from Tampico Ridge W of EEW 3/23 (BG, MG).

Single **Horned Grebes** and **Eared Grebes** were seen by many observers at Ankeny and Philomath STP this period. Rare away from the coast in winter, a single **Red-necked Grebe** was found at the pond on Eicher Rd in Linn Co 3/22 (DR).

**Great Blue Herons** were observed flying to and from nesting sites. There were 10 **Great Egrets** at Finley

3/22 (MR).

**Turkey Vultures** were common once again, riding the turbulent spring breezes or patiently waiting out the rain. Early **Osprey** arrivals included 1 at LSNA 3/22 (JSc) and one at TWG/SP 3/18 (NG). **Golden Eagles** were still seen somewhat regularly at Finley, and 2 were seen on a raptor survey route in the Philomath area 3/2 (VSB). A likely Golden Eagle tangled with a **Bald Eagle** in flight over S Albany 3/23 (JSm). **Northern Harriers** were frequently seen courting this period. An adult **Sharp-shinned Hawk** nearly caught one of a pair of House Sparrows investigating a bluebird nest box in NE Corvallis 3/20 (LM). **Cooper's Hawks** were in the beginnings of courtship this period, often seen with their white undertail coverts fluffed out. A **Northern Goshawk** flew over Corvallis and called as it was harassed by American Crows 3/19 (LPN). A **Red-shouldered Hawk** was a new yard bird on Mulkey Hill W of Corvallis (PCo, RCo). While courting this period, **Red-tailed Hawks** could be heard giving a high, Osprey-like chirping call. 5 **Rough-legged Hawks** were soaring W of Peterson Butte in Linn Co 3/13 (SS); 1 was an intermediate or a dark-morph bird.

4 or 5 **Virginia Rails** were calling at Jackson-Frazier Wetland 3/9 (JS). A **Sora** called from a grassy field at Ankeny 3/18 (BD), and 1 was at Finley 3/22 (WW).

**Black-bellied Plovers** were relatively abundant at some spots this period, with 35 in W Linn Co 3/2 (OH, HH, JS, AH, CH), 2 at Ankeny 3/20 (JH) and 15 there on 3/23 (TJ). **Greater Yellowlegs** also began to show up, with 13 at Finley 3/14 (WW), and at least 24 on 3/23 (PO, JS). 1 **Lesser Yellowlegs** was reported near the Buena Vista Ferry 3/23 (TJ). 600 **Dunlin** flew over a Linn Co field 3/2 (AH, CH, JS). Just a few flocks of **Least Sandpipers** were reported this period, while **Long-billed Dowitchers** were arriving in good numbers, with many observations at Finley and Ankeny in late March.

A Linn Co field near Tangent has been a favorite gull hangout. A count of about 1100 gulls on 3/2 included the following: 600 **Mew Gulls**, 3 **Ring-billed Gulls**, 1 **Western Gull**, 3 **California Gulls**, 300 **Herring Gulls**, 1 **Thayer's Gull**, 200 **Glaucous-winged Gulls**, 1 **Western x Glaucous-winged Gull hybrid**, and 1 **Glaucous Gull**. The Glaucous Gull was probably the same one from earlier in the year (OH, HH, JS, AH, CH). Meanwhile, gulls have been almost absent from Corvallis, only a few miles away.

**Band-tailed Pigeons** were still scarce, but should begin to arrive in greater numbers next period.

A **Barn Owl** near Ankeny was sitting on her nest with 7 eggs 3/18 (BD). A **Western Screech-Owl** gave its bouncing-ball trill at Dunn Forest 3/2 (PCo, RCo).

A **Great Horned Owl** was on her nest while her mate looked on in S Albany 3/23 (JSm). A **Northern Pygmy-Owl** was tooting at sunrise from Tampico Ridge, W of EEW this period (BG, JG). Up to 10 **Short-eared Owls** were flying over the fields near the Tangent Bald Eagle roost site 3/1 (JFI).

A male **Rufous Hummingbird** buzzed by a feeder in NW Corvallis 3/1 (JS), one of the first wave of migrants in Corvallis. Over the next few days, many Rufous Hummingbirds showed up at feeders alongside resident **Anna's Hummingbirds**.

1 or 2 **Lewis's Woodpeckers** continued at their favorite site at Ankeny, but a single bird was also found at the Tangent Bald Eagle roost site 3/14 (SSw, MS). Most woodpeckers were drumming and calling frequently this period. **Red-breasted Sapsuckers** started to give their unique, "syncopated" drum, while **Downy Woodpeckers** and **Hairy Woodpeckers** performed steady "drum-rolls." **Northern Flickers** displayed, called and drummed, sometimes in small groups.

**Merlins** continued to be reported fairly regularly this period, but should become more scarce over the next month. A **Peregrine Falcon** visited the Philomath STP 3/14 – perhaps interested in the 100+ Dunlin also present (WW). A **Prairie Falcon** was along Peoria Rd near Harrisburg 3/2 (AH, CH, JS)

At least 4 **Hutton's Vireos** were singing in Pioneer and Avery Parks in Corvallis 3/13 (LM).

**Western Scrub-Jays** and **American Crows** were looking for twigs on the ground or breaking them off trees and shrubs while constructing their nests this period.

At least 6 **Horned Larks** were found in Linn Co 3/2, with some of them singing (OH, HH, JS, AH, CH).

**Tree Swallows** and **Violet-green Swallows** were numerous by the end of the period. A couple of **Barn Swallows** were reported S of Monmouth 3/12 (ML). The first reported **Cliff Swallow** was at Finley 3/21 (WW), but the colonies in downtown Corvallis remained unoccupied at the end of the period.

**Black-capped Chickadees**, **Red-breasted** and **White-breasted Nuthatches** were inspecting nest cavities, and flocks of **Bushtits** were beginning to break up into pairs for breeding season. In mid-March, rival **Brown Creeper** males seemed to be chasing one another with spiraling flights around tree trunks (LM).

**Pacific Wrens** were still singing alongside **Bewick's Wrens** in wooded city parks this period, but are likely to move upslope to breeding areas soon.

An **American Dipper** was found at Yewwood Nursery 3/16, along Hwy 34 S of Marys Peak (KL). Male **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were singing late in the period, and will soon leave the lowland areas for conifer forests. **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were also singing

before leaving our area during the next period.

Male **Western Bluebirds** sometimes extended their soft “few” calls into a sort of song. The songs of **Varied Thrushes** were heard in neighborhoods with larger trees this period, and a few **Hermit Thrushes** were giving quiet renditions of their songs as well.

About 1100 **American Pipits** filled a field in Linn Co at Smith Rd and Creek Dr 3/2 (JS, AH, CH).

The famous **Yellow-throated Warbler** near Ankeny continued to attract birders. Perhaps it will finally get restless over the next period and decide to move on, hopefully finding its way to its normal breeding range. Reports of **Orange-crowned Warblers** began to trickle in at the end of the period, most of which probably represented new arrivals, although there were a few reported monthly throughout the winter. Male **Yellow-rumped Warblers** were starting to molt into their fancy breeding plumage by the end of the period, but **Townsend’s Warblers** seemed surprisingly scarce.

2 **Chipping Sparrows** may have overwintered near Ankeny, as they had been present in March (CHm). Migrant **Savannah Sparrows** will be showing up over the next period as the overwintering ones begin

singing. Songs of **Fox, Song, White-crowned** and **Golden-crowned Sparrows** added to the morning chorus. A **Swamp Sparrow** was calling from a wooded swale at EEW 3/20 (JG); it was likely one of the same ones reported throughout the winter. **White-throated Sparrows** should stay until the end of the next period before migrating north. A “**Slate-colored**” **Dark-eyed Junco** was at a residence near Ankeny this period (CHm).

**Western Meadowlarks** were singing along Campus Way at OSU 2/28 (DB) and out on the Finley prairie 3/23 (JS). **Brewer’s Blackbirds** began singing and displaying frequently this period, and were collecting nest material by the last week of the period.

**Purple Finch** numbers may have been boosted by some migrant birds, and the males’ bubbly songs made them easier to notice as well. For the first time this year, a pair of **Lesser Goldfinches** showed up at a feeder on Mulkey Hill W of Corvallis 3/26 (PCo, RCo), although they had been common in the lowlands throughout the winter. Although **American Goldfinches** were still somewhat uncommon, they seemed to gradually increase. By the end of the period, males were molting into bright yellow plumage. **Evening Grosbeaks** were scarce, but 1 was found in Tangent 3/8 (DR), 2 were in NW Corvallis 3/14 (DR), and 1 was on Marys Peak 3/23 (DH). Expect an influx of Evening Grosbeaks into Corvallis next period. **House Sparrows** were busy singing and defending nesting holes this period.

Please post your reports to [midvalleybirding.org](http://midvalleybirding.org), send them to [lisaaves@peak.org](mailto:lisaaves@peak.org), or leave a message at 541-753-7689 by Wednesday, 4/23/14.

- Lisa Millbank



*Evening Grosbeak photo by Matt Lee*

## Birdathon Time!

Birdathon 2014 is set for the weekend of April 26-27. This is our yearly fundraiser for the Hesthavn Nature Center. In past years we’ve raised thousands of dollars for projects and improvements for this wonderful local Audubon sanctuary.

How it works: Put together a team (or go solo). Ask people to sponsor you at so many cents a bird, or for a flat rate. Then go birding the weekend of April 26-27 and see how many species you can get! (Another weekend in that time frame is fine too, if you have a birding trip planned or a scheduling conflict.) Bird anywhere – your backyard, the coast, the Rio Grande... the sky’s the limit (literally). If you feel shy about asking people to sponsor you, get creative. For example, you can pledge to your own team, perhaps in honor of a nature-loving relative. Just drop me an email to let me know you are planning to participate. Sponsor forms and report forms will be on the ASC website under Birdathon. Results will be announced at the May meeting and in the summer Chat.

If you own a local business, you could generate some good publicity by having your business be a sponsor of the event. Your business could sponsor every team at a certain rate. This encourages more people to form a team and participate, knowing they already have their first sponsor. Beyond raising more funds for Hesthavn activities, this involves more people, who then feel they personally have a stake in Hesthavn's success and, more broadly, in wildlife and nature conservation.

Good Birding! And email me at [Karan Fairchild](mailto:Karan.Fairchild@peak.org), [alderspr@peak.org](mailto:alderspr@peak.org), with any questions.

*Karan Fairchild  
Birdathon Coordinator*

## Book Chat

### Butterflies and Dragonflies

If you're going on any ASC field trips this summer, better be prepared to enjoy seeing a variety of winged wildlife, not only the avian variety, particularly by mid-morning when the birds have retreated but you're still out there in the meadows and sloughs!

At our Book and Raffle Table we have some good guides to butterflies, dragonflies, and moths commonly found in the Pacific Northwest.

One beginner's level laminated guide is illustrated with photographs: *Butterflies of the Pacific Northwest: A Guide to Common and Notable Species*, includes pictures of their caterpillars, host plants, and seasonal information. It's published by Quick Reference Publishing and is priced at \$7.00.

The second beginner's guide, also laminated and waterproof, is *Pacific Northwest Butterflies and Moths: An Introduction to Familiar Species*, in the Pocket Naturalist Series published by Waterford Press. This guide also pictures common caterpillars, the pupae stages of half a dozen favorites. Priced at \$6.00.

And, our favorite dragonfly guide, *Dragonflies and Damselflies of Oregon: A Field Guide*, features stunning full-color photographs of every species currently known in Oregon. This 300 plus page book is published by OSU press and is priced at \$22.00.

We'll look forward to seeing you at our Book and Raffle table set up in the Social Hall at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 2945 Circle Blvd., where we'll be meeting in April

*Sally Shaw*

## Board Meeting Summary

### ASC Meeting

#### Board of Directors Meeting Summary

13 March 2014

The Board approved a motion to contribute \$120 toward the reprinting of the popular brochure: "Birding the Corvallis & Albany Areas."

The 2014 Homer Campbell Environmental Award Committee made a recommendation for an awardee that the Board approved unanimously.

The Board expressed its warm congratulations to Shy-Anne Woods who graduates from OSU in March. Many thanks to ShyAnne & to the OSU Bird Nerds for their valuable infusion of energy into ASC!

The APRIL Board Meeting will be held at Chris & Kate Mathews' house, 3336 SW Willamette on April 10th at 7pm.

*Linda Campbell*

## Open ACS Board Meetings

ASC Board of Directors meetings are open to all ASC members, and the board encourages you to come and see what we do. Our monthly board meeting is on Thursday one week before the General Meeting. See the calendar on the last page of The Chat for meeting location.

## Have You Changed Your Contact Information?

If you have moved or changed your email address, please forward your new contact information to Suzanne Ortiz at [ortizsv@gmail.com](mailto:ortizsv@gmail.com).

*Suzanne Ortiz*

## Contributors to the Chat

Chris Mathews, Fred Ramsey, Bill Proebsting, Jim and Karan Fairchild, Ray Drapek, Don Boucher, Lisa Millbank, Will Wright, Sally Shaw, Linda Campbell, Suzanne Ortiz

## Chat Articles

The Chat editors welcome monthly articles from all members of the Audubon Society of Corvallis. Please submit articles to the Chat editor by the 4th Thursday of the month. Always submit text using Microsoft Word.

**Audubon Society of Corvallis**

**Audubon Society of Corvallis**  
www.audubon.corvallis.or.us

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**Interested in volunteering?**

Please let us know: [volunteerasc@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerasc@gmail.com)



*Osprey photo by Matt Lee*

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*the* **CHAT**

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## Calendar

April 10 Board Meeting at Mathews' house  
April 12 E.E. Wilson Field Trip  
April 17 General Meeting-New Venue  
April 19 Hesthavn Work Party  
April 23 Field Notes Due  
April 24 Chat Articles Due  
April 25 Klamath Field Trip  
May 10 Hesthavn Work Party  
May 21 Birding By Ear Begins

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