



THE CHAT

APRIL 2020

VOL. 49 #8

ASC General Meeting

April 16 meeting - CANCELLED

In light of Governor Brown's recent executive order regarding the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, and in an abundance of caution, our scheduled April meeting will be cancelled. Efforts are underway to provide an interesting on-line presentation that members can view on their computers at home.

Please visit the ASC website for information and updates over the next several weeks at:

<https://auduboncorvallis.org>.

Upcoming and final program of 2019-2020:

May 21: James Sumich, Marine Mammals

Probably will be Cancelled - Subject to change as required by the COVID-19 situation. If we cannot meet safely at the First Methodist Church in May, we will try to make the program available to you online.

Suggestions for future speakers are always welcome.

Mark Baldwin, Vice Pres. & Program Chair, mark.baldwin2@comcast.net

Due to the global Coronavirus pandemic, nearly all of our many planned programs and meetings over the next two months have been cancelled or postponed. For the latest info, please visit our website at auduboncorvallis.org.

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President's Corner

Plan Your Hummingbird Garden

Our area now has two regularly-occurring hummingbird species: Anna's and Rufous. Anna's are resident year-around, while Rufous migrate between here and Mexico. Rufous Hummingbirds started arriving in late-February and by the time you read this are well-established for the season.

One of the great summer pleasures Lena and I have is watching hummingbirds in our garden over the course of the summer, mainly Rufous. Anna's are around but lie low while the aggressive Rufous dominate the garden. Hummingbirds amaze our visitors from other hemispheres. Guaranteed to delight.

Over the years, we have selected several species of perennials that both species of hummers forage. They are mostly what I euphemistically call "western natives,"



A Rufous Hummingbird visits Showy Milkweed blossoms. Photo by Bill Proebsting

species or cultivars mainly from the mountainous west and not necessarily native to our area. We do grow *Asclepias speciosa* (Showy Milkweed) which attracts hummingbirds, but it only blooms for two or three weeks. These other selections mostly bloom all summer once they start. All require some summer water to keep looking good and they respond well to good soil. Growing in large containers is a good option.

The hummingbird favorite by far is *Agastache* 'Tutti-Frutti.' Big spikes of tubular pink flowers on plants 3-4' tall. Easy to find in local nurseries and easy to grow. It doesn't always overwinter well, so we buy the necessary number of replacements in the spring. Plant them all over your garden to let more birds have a chance. Big winner.

Several plants fall into a "good" category. California Fuchsia (*Epilobium* sp.) is the best of this group, found at specialty nurseries like Dancing Oaks. Bright orange flowers on a low, spreading plant that starts flowering in July. *Salvia greggii* cultivars and other similar, bright red *Salvia* are about as attractive as California Fuchsia. Search the retail nurseries to see what they have in any given year. The European species *Salvia nemerosa* does not attract hummers. *Fuchsia magellanica* (Hardy Fuchsia) is perhaps less favored, but is a plant Anna's seem to go for late in the season as the other plant species stop flowering and the Rufous have moved south. *Nepeta* 'Walkers Low' (Catmint) is somewhat attractive to hummers but is a nice blue flower and easy to grow as a complement to the pinks, oranges and reds of the other species.

That's a plant list to get you started building a garden that will provide months of color and plenty of entertainment. Sit outside with a glass of Oregon 'Pinot Gris' and your summer will be memorable.

Bill Proebsting, Chapter President

Field Trip Schedule

Second Saturday Field Trip in April CANCELLED

Duncan Evered and Caryn Stoess

Weekend Field Trips

Alas, all our 2020 extended field trips are CANCELLED and reservations released.

For more info, check the ASC website, or email Fred Ramsey at framsey5@comcast.net, or call 541-753-3677.

Fred Ramsey, Weekend Field Trips Chair

For Up to the Minute ASC News

The new ASC website is at auduboncorvallis.org, and it is a handy place to find current news that can't wait for the next issue of the Chat. Learn about our vast

array of programs and services to help this community Connect with Nature.

Tired of self-quarantine? Birdwatching is the perfect activity for social distancing. See the National Audubon Society's take on how to add spice to your confinement. The link is provided on the ASC homepage.

Enjoy the beautiful bird photos on 30 pages, and try your skill at identifying them. Hover your cursor over the photo to see the subject and photographer.

Keep in touch and send a message to us at audubon.corvallis@gmail.com.

Sue Powell, ASC Website

Learn about what's new with ASC, and share your questions, photos and exciting bird sightings: at Audubon Society of Corvallis or tag us on Facebook [@corvallisaudubon](https://www.facebook.com/corvallisaudubon).

Kai Frueh and Nancy DeMasi, ASC Facebook

Check us out on Instagram at our new "handle," which is [@auduboncorvallis](https://www.instagram.com/auduboncorvallis).

Christina Linkem, ASC Instagram

2019-2020 Traveling Audubon Photo Awards Exhibit Postponed



Unfortunately, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Audubon Society has postponed the Traveling Photography Awards Exhibit that was to be displayed at the OSU Center for the Humanities April 1-22 (The corresponding reception on April 2nd has also been postponed). We hope to reschedule this event later this year, but there are no guarantees at this stage.

Dodie Wilson, ASC Photo Exhibit Coordinator

Corvallis Catio Tour on May 28 Has Been POSTPONED

The Corvallis Catio tour sponsored by Benton Soil and Water Conservation District, Heartland Humane Society, Chintimini Wildlife Center, and the Audubon

Society of Corvallis scheduled for May 28 from 5-8 pm has been cancelled. We hope to reschedule for a later date.

Dodie Wilson, ASC Board member

Education News

Winter Wildlife Field Day at Finley

Sadly, this big event had to be POSTPONED just days before the March 14 date we had worked towards for five months. While we are all hugely disappointed, it shows the priority of our health and safety by the US-FWS staff at Finley and all our partners. We will let you know when it is rescheduled.

Thanks to all the volunteers who signed up and who have already contributed generously of their time, skill, and creativity!

ASC Education Programs on hold this Spring due to social distancing

Our schedule of education team events over the next two months have either been cancelled already or are on hold while we wait to see the status of the pandemic in our area. The following programs have not cancelled yet and potentially will need ASC Education volunteers next month:

Chintimini Wildlife Center Open House, May 10
Get Outdoors Day at Peavy, May 30

If you can help with either of these tentatively scheduled events, please email Teri at chateditors@gmail.com. In these difficult times, we are also looking for new ways to make a difference and help our neighbors *Connect with Nature*. Let us know if you have ideas. Thanks!

How Are You Connecting with Nature now?

In these difficult and potentially dangerous times, we sincerely hope that you are finding safe ways to connect with nature and find joy and solace there. Listen to the sounds of the birds, watch the ever-changing sky, smell the flowers in your house or yard, and feel peace and perspective in the timeless wonders of our world.

Teri Engbring, ASC Education Team

Hesthavn News

April & May work parties at Hesthavn may be cancelled:

Please check the ASC website for current status on these and other events. Dates that have not yet been cancelled (from 10 am-2 pm) are:

Sunday April 12. Barn and yard work party
Saturday May 2. Weed work party (false brome)
Saturday May 16. Barn and yard work party

Ray Drapek, Hesthavn Chair

Directions to Hesthavn at 8590 NW Oak Creek Drive, Corvallis. Take Harrison west from downtown Corvallis; after you cross 53rd, it becomes Oak Creek Drive. Pass Bald Hill farm and follow the signs for Nature Center. Hesthavn will be on your left shortly before the end of Oak Creek Dr.

Community Notes

Birding by Ear classes scheduled this spring with Don Boucher and Lisa Millbank are CANCELLED.

10th Annual Woodpecker Festival in Sisters, Or. CANCELLED

Diana Roberts, East Cascades Audubon Society

All April Willamette Valley Refuge Events have been CANCELLED and both the refuge and Wild Goose Nature Store are temporarily closed.

Diane Young, Friends of Finley

Field Notes

02/21/2020 – 03/26/2020

Weather continued to be dry for the season, with a total of less than 1.5 inches of precipitation during the period. A bit of that came as snow with wet flakes and brief accumulations on 13-14 Mar. Otherwise sunny weather with passing showers prevailed. Despite occasional morning frosts through 26 Mar, afternoon temperatures reached 60 F or higher on ten days in the period.

Introduced plums were in full bloom by 27 Feb when the native **black cottonwoods** started to put out flower buds at Luckiamute SNA. **Pacific hound's-tongue, Oregon iris, dewberry, trillium, and oak toothwort** were blooming along the Mulkey Ridge trail 12 Mar (Howard Bruner). **Common camas** began to bloom at E.E. Wilson WA by 18 Mar. By the end of the period, cottonwoods were leafed out and big-leaf maples were beginning to bloom.

The COVID-19 epidemic put a damper on our ability to enjoy this beautiful spring weather in groups, as awareness spread of the need for "social distancing." An ASC field trip to the coast was cancelled on 14 Mar. Following the governor's "stay-at-home" order on 22 Mar, even many natural areas and other outdoor sites were closed to the public, including Luckiamute SNA, McDonald Forest and Dunn Forest, and Starker Forests lands. The main road through Finley NWR closed, along with all trails, but Bruce Rd. and the boardwalk to the blind McFadden Marsh remained open as of the date of this column, along with the Basket Butte trail at Baskett Slough NWR.

Abbreviations and locations: NWR = National Wildlife Refuge, STP = sewage treatment ponds. Jackson-Frazier Wetlands is in north Corvallis near Cheldelin Middle School. Luckiamute State Natural Area (SNA) is along the Willamette River northwest of Albany. Philomath STP is south of Philomath and requires access permission. Teloh-Calapooia Park is in south Albany near Linn-Benton Community College, Talking Water Gardens are in NE Albany. Cabell Marsh, McFadden Marsh, and North Prairie are locations at Finley NWR.

Courtship and nesting

“**Western**” **Canada Geese** staked out likely nesting spots by early March. The **Wild Turkey** flock at Bald Hill Farm still numbered at least 52 when Kaplan Yalcin visited on 29 Feb. Displaying toms and curious females were conspicuous there and in the Soap Creek Valley by mid-Mar.

Sooty Grouse boomed along the Intertie Trail on Marys Peak 13 Mar (Kaplan Yalcin). A **Mountain Quail** called on Vineyard Mtn 27 Feb (Paul Adamus).

An **Osprey** nest in Dallas was occupied by 20 Mar (Randy Gray). A nest at Luckiamute SNA also had one bird on the nest by 20 Mar, and by 23 Mar its mate had arrived and was helping to clean out the nest for this year’s brood (Rana Foster). A female **Bald Eagle** brooded on a nest in E.E. Wilson WA on 19 Mar as the male preened nearby (Pam & Randy Comeleo).

A **Red-tailed Hawk** brooded on a nest at E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area 28 Feb. An adult **Red-shouldered Hawk** in vivid plumage was along Mountain View Dr. n. of Lewisburg 2 Mar (Jay Faulconer). One vocalized frequently as it flew around the Oak Creek neighborhood w. of Corvallis 9 Mar, suggesting a pair in courtship (Paul Jacobsen).

A male **Northern Harrier** along the Corvallis-Independence Hwy performed his roller-coaster-like display 13 Mar, undeterred by wet snowflakes. A territory where an older pair nested annually in the s. part of E.E. Wilson seemed to be vacant this year, until 20 Mar when I heard a young female squealing, as a young male just gaining adult plumage seemed to ponder how to respond to these begging calls that are part of the pair-bonding process.

A pair of **Cooper’s Hawks** in the Timberhill area in nw. Corvallis 10 Mar vocalized and performed display flights, dangling their talons and flapping slowly (Nancy Stotz).

Pairs of **Great Horned Owls** were heard “duetting” throughout the period. A **Northern Saw-whet Owl** sang its monotonous song at Herbert Farm & Open Space 15 Mar (Rana Foster). A **Northern Pygmy-Owl** tooted from a stand of 80-year-old Douglas firs on Tampico Ridge near Adair Village 22 Mar. A **Western Screech-Owl** sang in nw. Corvallis for more than 30 mins after dark on 25 Mar, stopping only as graupel

(snow pellets) began to fall (Pam & Randy Comeleo).

A **Mourning Dove** cooed its mournful song at Luckiamute SNA 20 Mar. An **Acorn Woodpecker** calling along the 100 Rd in Dunn Forest 25 Feb led Pam and Randy Comeleo to a group of three, working in some tall, spindly oaks which were left there after a recent thinning/oak release project.

Kaplan Yalcin counted at least six **Red-breasted Sapsuckers** along the trail out to the boat-in campground at Luckiamute SNA 11 Mar, including one drumming loudly on a metal sign at the trailhead. One in s. Corvallis 23 Mar chose an aluminum extension ladder to drum on (Woody Fitzgerald).

An early **Anna’s Hummingbird** nest in Brad Benson’s yard fledged two youngsters on 25 Mar (fide Jamie Simmons). Elsewhere males could be heard and seen performing display dives through the period.

Two **Hutton’s Vireos** sang s. of Philomath 22 Feb (Virginia Stanton). **American Robins, White-crowned Sparrows, Dark-eyed Juncos** and **Western Bluebirds** were singing in n. Corvallis by 25 Feb (Don Boucher).

Andrea Foster heard a **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** singing in nw Corvallis 8 Mar, and more were heard by other observers through the period. These tiny songbirds aren’t known to nest in the Willamette Valley, so these songs indicate that they’ll soon be migrating out to nesting habitat in the Cascades or farther north.

A few **Bushtits** left winter flocks and paired up in preparation for nesting season by 24 Feb, when Lisa Millbank saw a pair visiting her suet feeder in n. Corvallis. Two pairs were building nests in the Timberhill area in nw. Corvallis 10 Mar (Nancy Stotz). A female gathering a ball of spiderweb silk for her nest in n. Corvallis 19 Mar got her foot tangled in a loop of silk before her mate freed her by tugging on the silk with his beak (Lisa Millbank).

A male **American Kestrel** in Luckiamute SNA 29 Feb attempted copulation at least three times with a female who fended off his advances, but tolerated having him perch right next to her on the same branch, high up in a cottonwood snag with cavities. By 14 Mar the female was out of sight, likely on a nest, as the male kept a quiet vigil nearby. Another kestrel pair were also nesting in a cottonwood snag with cavities in sw. Albany by 22 Mar (Kaplan Yalcin).

A pair of **Black Phoebes** worked on a nest under the concrete stage of one of the old Camp Adair movie theater foundations in E.E. Wilson WA on 26 Mar.

A male **Western Bluebird** turned up 7 Mar in Victoria Bryhan’s yard in the College Hill neighborhood, reminding her of ASC’s “bluebird lady,” Elsie Eltzroth and how her decades of work helped this species to recover in our area. Andrea Foster, one of many ASC members who continue with that work, found four pairs of bluebirds plus two males guarding their favorite nest boxes (still empty) on the Hewlett-Packard campus 21 Mar.

A **Lesser Goldfinch** gathered fibers from a frayed rope along Oak Creek. w. of Corvallis 19 Mar (Paul

Jacobsen).

Muddy restoration-loving birds

Restoration work at Jackson-Frazier Wetland has created favorable habitat for waders and migrant shorebirds; Jamie Simmons noted that up to 17 **Great Egrets** used the wetland last month, and this month the count of **Greater Yellowlegs** swelled from two on 5 Mar to a remarkable 47 on 19 Mar.

Shorebird numbers on a private conservation wetland near the North Prairie began to pick up by 29 Feb, when several **Killdeer**, four **Greater Yellowlegs** and six **Long-billed Dowitchers** foraged in the vernal wetland while three **Wilson's Snipe** rested in the background (Howard Bruner).

300 **Dunlin** flew around a muddy field s. of Philomath 20 Mar, wheeling and banking in unison before landing again to forage, calling back and forth (Rana Foster).

Spring arrivals and migrants

A **Virginia Rail** called along the Grays Creek section of the Mill Hill trail at Finley NWR on 8 Mar. Another Virginia Rail and an early **Sora** called at Jackson-Frazier Wetland 17 Mar (Jeanette & Jim Scott). An early, lone **Western Sandpiper** was at the Philomath STP 26 Mar (Will Wright, Hendrik Herlyn).

Turkey Vultures became a regular sight this month. Five soared over Vineyard Mtn 27 Feb (Paul Adamus). One dead along Hoffman Rd. just n. of Monmouth was likely struck by a car while scavenging a road-kill. Linda Campbell notes that she often stops to move carcasses out of the roadway, whenever it's safe, to help prevent scavengers from becoming victims.

Gull flocks seemed to be on the move by early Mar, with a new flock near Shedd on 10 Mar (Tom Gilg). Migrant **Band-tailed Pigeons** were passing through the Brownsville area 22-25 Mar (Tom Gilg).

Male **Rufous Hummingbirds** turned up s. and sw. of Philomath 29 Feb (Virginia Stanton; Karan Fairchild). One turned up near Teloh-Calapooia Park 1 Mar (Jim Smith) and one was along Riverside Dr. sw. of Albany 2 Mar (Gary Whitehouse). One turned up on Mary Ann Roberts' deck feeder in the Grand Oaks area of sw. Corvallis 4 Mar. Females began to turn up with one near Silverton 9 Mar (John Thomas) and near E.E. Wilson WA 13 Mar.

By 15 Mar many watchers reported that their hummingbird feeders were busy. While others stocked up on toilet paper to "prep" for the COVID-19 epidemic, Luke Sowa stocked up on sugar to make sure that hummers near Lacombe would be well-fed.

Migrant **Tree Swallows** were widespread by 28 Feb. Six **Violet-green Swallows** foraged over a meadow sw. of Philomath 28-29 Feb (Karan Fairchild). **Violet-green Swallows** returned to nest boxes near Teloh-Calapooia Park by 8 Mar (Jim Smith) and in Corvallis 18 Mar (Stacy Drake). Dozens joined hundreds of **Tree Swallows** swarming over Talking Water Gardens on the evening of 14 Mar (Kaplan Yalcin).

An early **Cliff Swallow** turned up with Violet-green and Tree Swallows at Talking Water Gardens 16 Mar (Erik Bergman). An early **Barn Swallow** turned up at Philomath STP 13 Mar (Jamie Simmons); six were at Herbert Farm 15 Mar (Rana Foster). Four **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** perched north of Millersburg 25 Mar (Roy Gerig).

An **Orange-crowned Warbler** sang from a willow thicket in our neighbors' yard near E.E. Wilson WA 20 Mar. Another nectared on Oregon-grape flowers n. of Silverton 22 Mar (John Thomas) and one was also at Luckiamute SNA 22 Mar (Howard Bruner).

A **Chipping Sparrow** turned up near Brownsville 25 Mar (Tom Gilg). Movement of **White-crowned Sparrows** was also evident by 26 Mar when Angela Courtney had one turn up in her Sweet Home yard.

Numbers of **Pine Siskins** began to increase by early Mar when Andrea Foster heard a flock in nw. Corvallis. Two visiting Judith and Jerry Paul's feeders in the Highland Dell neighborhood of nw. Corvallis 9 Mar were their first of the year there. Howard Bruner noted large flocks in his neighborhood by 22 Mar. **American Goldfinches** also began to move around, turning up at Angela Courtney's feeder in Sweet Home 20 Mar. Flocks of **Evening Grosbeaks** began to gather in Corvallis by the end of the period (Don Boucher).

Lingering winter birds and departures

Trumpeter Swans staged for migration in a field near Suver from 24 Feb through 8 Mar, with high counts of 13 adults and 6 to 8 first-winter birds. Up to 55 **Tundra Swans** joined them through 2 Mar. The flock included one adult Trumpeter seemingly paired with an adult Tundra Swan and associating with a possible hybrid first-winter bird that showed traits of both species.

11 **Trumpeter Swans** were on Cabell Marsh 21 Feb and 9 were still there 29 Feb, with one family group of five still there 14 Mar, joined by another adult and two first-winter birds on 19 Mar (Howard Bruner). A flock of 30 swans flying over sw. Corvallis 19 Mar were Trumpeters based on vocalizations (Andi Stephens). A flock of about 150 **Tundra Swans** along Linn West Dr. ne. of Halsey left on 9 Mar (Tom Gilg). Over 1000 were nw. of Halsey 17 Mar (Howard Bruner).

Greater White-fronted Geese along Talmadge Rd s. of Independence continued through 14 Mar (Mike Lippsmeyer).

Hundreds of **Northern Shovelers** and **American Wigeon** were at Herbert Farm 15 Mar (Rana Foster). More **Northern Shovelers** took advantage of low water levels at Talking Water Gardens while the city of Albany completed a sewer pipe project; Kaplan Yalcin noted eight other species of ducks there including the continuing **Cinnamon Teal**. A few **wigeon** continued at Sunset Park in sw. Corvallis through 22 Mar (Bill Gerth).

An **Eared Grebe** was seen at the Philomath STP

through the period; a **Horned Grebe** was also noted there 23-24 Mar.

An apparent dark-morph "**Harlan's**" **Red-tailed Hawk** soared over the Cheldelin neighborhood in n. Corvallis 22 Mar (Lisa Millbank). Two **Rough-legged Hawks** were still in the Camp Adair area 28 Feb. One was still at Herbert Farm 26 Mar (Will Wright).

Two **Burrowing Owls** that wintered between Tangent and Peoria were still in their favored spots 27 Feb (Jeff Fleischer). The one closer to Tangent was gone by the first week of Mar (Tom Gilg) but the one closer to Peoria was still there 13 Mar (Jeff Fleischer).

A **Merlin** flew eastward over Village Green Park in n. Corvallis 24 Feb (Lisa Millbank). A **Peregrine Falcon** hunting over the Adair Village STP 28 Feb scared everything in sight, even causing a pair of **Common Ravens** to make evasive maneuvers.

A **Northern Shrike** continued along Holmes Rd. s. of Brownsville through 14 Mar (Tom Gilg; Erika Emig). One was still at the North Prairie through 21 Mar (Will Wright).

Many observers noted seeing and hearing good numbers of **Varied Thrushes** during the winter, and on through March. As of 26 Mar, four were grudgingly sharing Angela Courtney's smallish yard in Sweet Home; she noted that they weren't especially tolerant of each other.

A few **Townsend's Warblers** continued to visit local yards after this winter's strong showing; Kaplan Yalcin had one visiting in Albany through 8 Mar. By then movement of **Yellow-rumped Warblers** was noticeable; Victoria Bryhan saw numbers triple at her feeders in the College Hill neighborhood.

On 9 May Will Wright saw an adult male **Common Yellowthroat** along McFarland Rd. on the s. side of Finley NWR, near where an immature bird was reported in early Jan. There were no further reports during the season, so likely this was an overwintering bird, though spring migrants are due to arrive any day.

Two **Lincoln's Sparrows** were up in willows near an oxbow at Luckiamute SNA 11 Mar (Kaplan Yalcin). One turned up at Jeff and Patricia Harding's feeder near Crabtree 14 Mar, suggesting the beginnings of movement by birds that wintered in the area.

On 8 Mar as two "**Sooty**" **Fox Sparrows** scratched in dirt near E.E. Wilson WA where I had recently cleared blackberries, one of them sang softly -- just a soft jumble of notes, not nearly as loud as I'd expect for a territorial bird.

A **White-throated Sparrow** was still in s. Corvallis 23 Mar (Woody Fitzgerald). Up to two visited Jamie Simon's nw. Corvallis yard occasionally through 22 Mar, and one was still there 26 Mar.

Commuters and non-commuters

A **Beaver** paddled its way up the Marys River between 15th and 26th Ave around 7:40 AM on 10

Mar, and again at nearly the same time on 13 Mar (Don Boucher), seemingly making a daily commute.

Two large **turtles** about 14 inches long – hopefully the native **Western Pond Turtles** – weren't going anywhere as they basked at Talking Water Gardens 9 Mar (Andrea Foster).

Off-course birds and other surprises

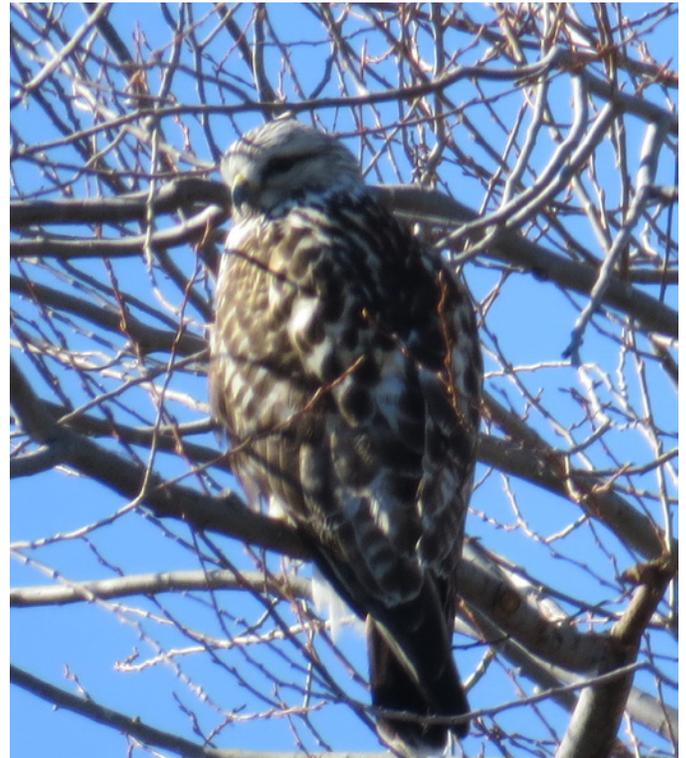
Four "**Aleutian**" **Cackling Geese** were in a flock of a thousand cacklers along Belts Rd. s. of Brownsville 26 Feb (Deanna Emig). A male "**Eurasian**" **Green-winged Teal** was photographed at Baskett Slough NWR 18 Mar (Tim Shelmerdine). An apparent hybrid **Eurasian x American Wigeon** was on a pond along Talmadge Rd s. of Independence 23 Feb (Mike Lippsmeyer). A female **Tufted Duck** turned up on Eagle Marsh in Ankeny NWR 20-21 Mar (Conor Zobebelein; Christopher Hinkle).

While looking for Mountain Quail on the West Point Spur of Marys Peak 20 Mar, Howard Bruner was surprised to find two **Wild Turkeys**. They're really everywhere now!

A lone **American White Pelican** turned up in a field ne. of Lebanon 21-24 Feb (Tom Gilg; Jeff Harding).

Just after Deanna Emig checked for collared geese in a flock of "**Dusky**" **Canada Geese** north of Harrisburg 4 Mar, she was astonished to see an adult Golden Eagle fly in to catch one out of the air, then land to feed in its kill in a grass field.

A **Northern Goshawk** flew high over Karan & Jim Fairchild's place sw. of Philomath 27 Feb, perhaps patrolling for **Band-tailed Pigeons** which had shown up at their feeders by then. An adult **goshawk** was also sighted over Bald Hill Natural Area 1 Mar (Robert Jilek).



Rough-legged Hawk photo by Teri Engbring

Next month: Spring migration reaches its peak. Please post your observations to the Mid-Valley birding

list at midvalleybirding.org, e-mail them to me at joel.geier@peak.org, or call (541) 745-5821 by 23 Apr.

Board Meeting Summary

For March 12, 2020

1. Mark has booked the Corvallis Community Center for 2020-21-chapter meetings, September 2020 through May 2021.
2. Treasurer Carolyn requests that committee chairs submit budget requests in April for next year.
3. Board approved cancelling the March and April chapter meetings. Kai, Christina, Dave, and Jim are looking into the possibility of an on-line broadcast of these or other programs at meeting time.
4. The usual in-person April Board meeting has been cancelled. A policy forbidding electronic conduct of board meetings was modified to only exclude meeting by email, thus opening the possibility of an on-line format such as Zoom.
5. All ASC education events scheduled in March and April were cancelled. Still waiting on two May events.
6. Christina will look into a design and develop a budget proposal for ASC sticker handouts. She also raised the idea of a Birds and Brews event with Block 15 this fall and will talk to them.
7. Dodie reported that the planned ASC reception for the Audubon Photography Exhibit has been cancelled. The exhibit has since been cancelled.
8. Suggestions for candidates are needed for President and Secretary, the only open positions this year.

Minutes by President Bill Proebsting

ASC Board Secretary Needed NOW

Our Board Secretary, Linda Campbell is gone, and we need a replacement to take notes at the monthly (second Thursday of each month) Board meeting. ASC is looking for a Secretary to complete Linda's term through May, and then we will need a candidate for the 2020-21 term.

The Secretary records and maintains the official business of ASC, mainly via minutes of the Board meetings held ten times per year. Linda and Gail Nickerson are our most recent holders of this office and would be happy to tell you about the position. Their contact info is on last page of the CHAT and on the ASC website/About Us/Leadership.

Open 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 Board meeting minutes or ASC website for location and time.

Membership Corner

Welcome to new members:

Renee Goetsch
Jack Carter

General Membership Renewal Information

For membership renewal online go the ASC website (<https://auduboncorvallis.org/membership/>) and renew via PayPal. To renew by USPS, mail a check to ASC, PO Box 148, Corvallis, OR 97339.

Email Notifications/Meeting Cancellations

We encourage members to join the ASC listserv to receive emergency email notifications about meeting cancellations related to weather conditions, updated information about ASC events, fieldtrip locations, and volunteer work parties. Send an email to the listserv administrator (Karan Fairchild, alderspr@peak.org) and request to be added.

Have You Changed Your Contact Info?

If you have moved or changed your email/mail addresses please update your contact information. Thank you for your generosity and support!

Paul Adamus, Membership Chair

Contributors to this Chat

Mark Baldwin, William Proebsting, Teri Engbring, Naomi Weidner, Joel Geier, Don Boucher, Fred Ramsey, Ray Drapek, Sue Powell, Paul Adamus, Diane Young, Dodie Wilson, Christina Linkem, Kai Frueh, Nancy DeMasi, and Diana Roberts

Chat Articles

The Chat editors, Teri Engbring and Naomi Weidner, welcome articles from all members of the Audubon Society of Corvallis. Please submit articles to the Chat editor by the fourth Thursday of the month. Submit text using Microsoft Word and photos to: chateditors@gmail.com.

Audubon Society of Corvallis

Calendar

Apr 2-22	National Audubon Photo Exhibit and Reception at OSU – CANCELLED
Apr 11	Saturday field trip - CANCELLED
Apr 16	ASC General Meeting - CANCELLED
Apr 17	Klamath Basin field trip - CANCELLED
Apr 23	Submissions due for May 2020 Chat
Apr 23	Field Notes submissions due

The Chat is published 10 times a year by the Audubon Society of Corvallis, PO Box 148, Corvallis OR 97339. Annual ASC memberships are \$25 for an individual; \$35 for a family; \$15 for student; \$15 for Chat-only subscriptions (email delivery only); \$50 for Supporting Level; \$150 for Patron Level; and \$250 for Benefactor Level.

Audubon Society of Corvallis
P.O. Box 148
Corvallis, OR 97339

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Officers

President.....	BillProebsting.....	proebstw(at)gmail.com.....	541-752-0108
VicePresident.....	MarkBaldwin.....	mark.baldwin2(at)comcast.net.....	541-757-0834
Secretary.....	LindaCampbell.....	lcampbell(at)peak.org.....	541-929-9420
Treasurer.....	CarolynPeterson.....	chinstrapdreams(at)comcast.net	

Board Members

KaranFairchild.....	alderspr(at)peak.org.....	541-929-4049
KaiFrueh.....	kaifrueh2(at)gmail.com	
ChristinaLinkem.....	cnlinkem(at)hawaii.edu	
BobMurray.....	robert.murray(at)maine.edu	
GailNickerson.....	gbnickerson(at)comcast.net	
DodieWilson,alternate.....	dgwilson802(at)gmail.com	

Committee Chairs

Birdathon.....	KaranFairchild.....	alderspr(at)peak.org.....	541-929-4049
BluebirdTrail.....	MattLee.....	sueandmatt(at)comcast.net.....	
ChatEditorsChatEditors.....	TeriEngbring,NaomiWeidner.....	chateditors(at)gmail.com	
ChristmasBirdCount.....	MarciaCutler.....	marciacutler(at)comcast.net.....	541-752-4313
Conservation.....	DavidMellinger.....	dmell3.14159(at)gmail.com	
CorvallisSustainabilityCoalition.....	SuzanneOrtiz.....	ortizsv(at)gmail.com.....	917-273-4917
EducationTeamCoordinator.....	TeriEngbring.....	engbring(at)hotmail.com	
FieldNotesCompiler.....	JoelGeier.....	joel.geier(at)peak.org.....	541-745-5821
FieldTrips-local.....	DuncanEvered,CarynStoess.....	CorvallisAudubonSecondSaturday(at)gmail.com	
FieldTrips-regional.....	FredRamsey.....	framsey5(at)comcast.net.....	541-829-0383
Hesthavn.....	RayDrapek.....	raydrapek(at)gmail.com.....	541-760-6053
Historian.....	MarciaCutler.....	marciacutler(at)comcast.net.....	541-752-4313
Membership.....	PaulAdamus.....	adamus7(at)comcast.net.....	541-231-3095
Publicity.....	ASCWebsite-SuePowell.....	jabirusue(at)comcast.net	
	Facebook-KaiFrueh.....	kaifrueh2(at)gmail.com	
	Instagram-ChristinaLinkem.....	cnlinkem(at)hawaii.edu	
Refreshments.....	BeckyGarrett.....	becky.bittern(at)yahoo.com.....	541-757-7474
SalesTable.....	SallyShaw.....	shaws(at)peak.org.....	541-757-2749



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