



# THE CHAT

November 2022 VOL. 52 #3

The 2022 - 2023 Monthly Meetings will be both in-person and available on Zoom! They will be held in the [Corvallis Community Center](#) (Oak Room, there will be signage) NW Tyler Ave. in Corvallis. At 6:30 PM there is a social gathering and a business meeting at 7:00, followed by a Board meeting at 7:00 PM, and the program begins at 7:30 PM and lasts about an hour.

**COVID-19: Please do not attend Audubon Society of Corvallis in-person meetings or events if you have a known exposure to someone with COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19, if you are sick yourself, or have other reasons to quarantine. We encourage mask wearing and will have some available at the general meeting if you need one. Remember, mask wearing is not just for you, but helps protect your friends and neighbors.**

The in-person meetings will also be available on Zoom. ASC members who provided their email address with their membership dues will receive an invitation and instructions the day before the webinar. Members can view the presentation on their computers or phone. A few days following the meeting, the link to the recording will be posted on the ASC website (Homepage and Monthly Meetings) and will be available until the next meeting. Meetings are open to the public, although space is limited. Email [audubon.corvallis@gmail.com](mailto:audubon.corvallis@gmail.com) for information about accessing the program.

## ASC General Meeting



*photo credit Ken Crebbin, Cornell Lab*

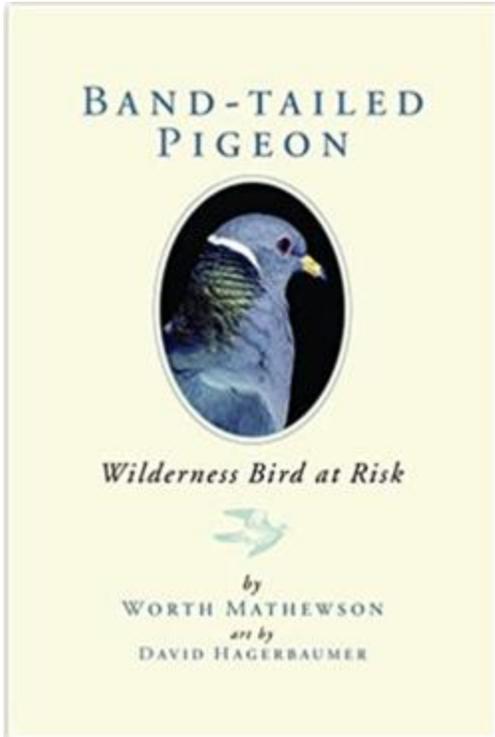
## Band-tailed Pigeon: Wilderness Bird at Risk Worth Mathewson

**November 17, 2022 - 7:30 PM**

Worth Mathewson, author of *Band-tailed Pigeon: Wilderness Bird at Risk*, will discuss the history, habits, and research of this remarkable bird. What makes Worth Mathewson's writing about the western wilderness pigeon newsworthy is not his elegant evocation of the damp, spicy scent of a Pacific Northwest river valley or his keen observations of

bandtails flying high and fast over a canyon, but he press took note of an avid hunter blaming overhunting and bad management for the devastation of a species.

Wary by nature, yet brave under fire, the magnificent bird has long thrilled the sportsman. Some attribute the bird's decline to habitat loss, but Mathewson, in this complete natural history, carefully builds his case to the contrary. While trichomoniasis and spraying of broadleaf trees may contribute, the human factor is paramount: a persistently callous attitude toward *Patagioenas fasciata* may keep it in a downward spiral. If modest protections are lifted at the first signs of recovery, its fate may be sealed.



**Thanks** to Eric Preston for guiding our Zoom meetings and Program Committee member Mai Kiigemagi for setting up speakers. We need another volunteer or two to help with our program committee! Can you please contact us at the website noted above to help Mai and Eric!!

*Mai and Eric, Program Committee*

## In This Issue:

Monthly Meeting Notes	1-2
ASC Website and Social Media	2-3
Field Trips	3

Education News	3-4
Atop the Nest Box	4-5
Diversity & Inclusion	5-6
Hesthavn News	6-7
Book & Raffle Table	7
Community Notes	8-9
Board Meeting Summary	10-12
Membership Corner	12
Contributors to this CHAT	12
Calendar	13

## ASC Website/Social Media

### ASC Website – 29 pages of noteworthy items

Information about ASC is always at your tarsi on the website, whether you are “anisodactyl” or not! Find out what’s up on the homepage calendar ([auduboncorvallis.org](http://auduboncorvallis.org)) which lists upcoming meetings, field trips, work parties, and more.

Current issues, action items, and contact info are detailed in Audubon in the News page on the Conservation tab. Education activities reach many groups, from schoolchildren to oldies but goodies.

Western Bluebird monitoring has continued every spring and summer since Elsie Elzroth created the program in 1976 to address the declining population. Check out the amazing success of Bluebird Trail on the Conservation tab.

Want to contact any ASC Leader, including Board members and Chairpersons? Click on the About Us tab, then Leadership. Volunteer or Join ASC details on the same tab.

To report injured, rare, banded, or dead birds, check the Birding tab, then the Injured or Rare Birds subtab for email and/or phone numbers.

*Sue Powell, ASC Website*

## Corvallis Audubon Facebook

Be sure to keep up to date and be inspired by joining our ASC Facebook page. Just “like” us for the latest news and pictures of wildlife that affect our local area. Feel free to post about what is happening in your

neighborhood, street, and back yard. Let's stay connected. Join us on Facebook at [CorvallisAudubon](#).  
*Nancy Demasi, ASC Facebook*

## Audubon Corvallis Instagram

We want to share your local bird photos! Once a week, we will post our favorite pictures submitted from our followers. Submit your photos by typing @auduboncorvallis in your post. Follow our Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/auduboncorvallis/>) to get reminders on upcoming events, learn about the conservation of birds and other native wildlife, and find out how you can get involved.

*Nikki Cross, Instagram Coordinator*

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## Field Trips

### Second Saturday Field Trip

**November 12, 2022 (8 AM - Noon)**

We will meet at the shelter in Willamette Park (east end of SE Goodnight Ave.) and tour the park. This four-hour excursion is free and geared to people with an interest in learning more about birds that can be found in the Corvallis area. All levels of expertise are welcome. Bring suitable hats, shoes, and rain gear, as well as water and snacks! Registration required; free, open to the public.

[CorvallisAudubonSecondSaturday@gmail.com](mailto:CorvallisAudubonSecondSaturday@gmail.com) to sign up. Led by Duncan Evered and Caryn Stoess. Weather may alter plans.

*Duncan Evered and Caryn Stoess*

### Multi-Day Field Trips!

An ad hoc committee is in the planning stages to revive the multi-day field trips in 2023. Fred Ramsey, who has been our beloved trip leader for the past 50 years, has passed the baton. Fred has kindly provided his extensive notes on previous trips to the new team of organizers. We're delighted that Fred has shared his expertise & we're even more delighted that he plans to join the trips as a participant (yea!!).

The preliminary plan is to schedule 4 trips in 2023. Each trip will have 1-2 organizers who will deal with logistics:

Rogue Valley (April)  
Malheur Field Station (May)  
Summer Lake (June)  
Bandon Shorebirds (August)

Updates will appear in the CHAT. We're excited about the upcoming trips and look forward to getting out in the field to bird some of our favorite Oregon birding spots.

For information:

[md.fieldtrips.corvallisaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:md.fieldtrips.corvallisaudubon@gmail.com)

*Carolyn Peterson, for the Fieldtrip Team*

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## Education News

### Fall Migratory Bird Week!

ASC Education joined in the festivities of Willamette Valley Refuges Migratory Bird Week with a Bird Walk at Woodpecker Loop in Finley Wildlife Refuge on Wednesday, Oct 5 from 10 AM -1 PM. We probably saw the most species right in the parking lot, but it was an enjoyable walk on a beautiful fall day. We also got to see some of the changes they're making to the trail to make it more ADA accessible.

Some of the species seen and/or heard were juvenile Cedar Waxwing, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, California Scrub-Jay, Black-capped Chickadee, Spotted Towhee, Bewick's Wren, Pacific Wren, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Northern Flicker, and California Quail. We also saw a very large Bald-faced Hornet nest in a tree by the trail! Thanks to volunteers Mai Kiigemagi, Suzanne Ortiz, Phyllis Bailey, and Dodie Wilson.

*Dodie Wilson, Education Co-Chair*

### Kalapuya Gaw-Ni

(Kalapuya Trail through the Woods)

**Wednesdays thru November 30th**

**4:30-5:45 PM**

Students ages 9-14 are welcome to join us on *Kalapuya Gaw-Ni* trail through time and place this Fall to discover the Kalapuya way of life in the Willamette Valley. We will explore different local natural areas to understand key plant and animal resources. Students will participate in hands-on math, science and history using the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

curriculum. Students will build a replica canoe and test if it floats. They will also explore the population dynamics of deer and investigate key plant resources for their value as food or tools. Class will include storytelling, Chinuk Wawa vocabulary, and hands-on activities. We will begin with a retelling of the Kalapuyan Creation Story and a hands-on investigation of the Great Flood 15,000 years ago. We will then explore the importance of wetlands, salmon, fire, plants, and sacred lands (Mary's Peak). Finally, we will travel forward in time to gain an understanding of key events of history in the 1800s with broken treaties and Oregon becoming a state in 1859.

Each week's class will be held at a different natural area or park to investigate key components of local ecology. Please email [asc.education@gmail.com](mailto:asc.education@gmail.com) for lesson locations and registration. Each class may be registered individually.

*Program lead by Meika Vingelen*

Classes will utilize the key curriculum including:

- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde curriculum available online at <https://www.grandronde.org/services/education/>
- This is Kalapuyan Land <https://fiveoaksmuseum.org/this-is-kalapuyan-land-learning-materials/>
- Talking Stones <https://eugene-or.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3322/Talking-Stones-Brochure?bidId=>
- Historical Background knowledge from *The Kalapuyans* by Harold Mackery, Ph.D
- Additional Nature Resources include Field Guides for plant, and animal identification.

*Meika Vingelen, Education*

## Atop the Nest Box

### 2022 Bluebird Trail Nesting Report

The 2022 nesting season for Western Bluebirds in the Willamette Valley came to a close about two months ago. In the nest boxes monitored by Bluebird Trail volunteers in Benton and Linn counties this year, the first bluebird egg was laid around April 7, and the last

chick fledged (i.e., left its nest) around August 28. Table 1 summarizes the nesting data from 2022 and the average nesting data from the years 2009–2021.

	2022	Average, 2009–2021
Nesting attempts	161	227
Eggs laid	803	1,118
Eggs laid/nesting attempt	5.0	4.9
Eggs hatched	604	882
% Eggs hatched	75	79
Chicks fledged	521	750
% Chicks fledged	86	85

In Table 1, a nesting attempt is defined as a nest that contained at least one bluebird egg. You can examine the year-by-year data from 2009–2022 on the ASC website: [auduboncorvallis.org/bluebird-trail](http://auduboncorvallis.org/bluebird-trail).

One of the first things you'll notice about this year's results is that the number of nesting attempts (161) was much lower than the 2009–2021 average (227). In part, this reduction is due to the fact that fewer Bluebird Trail volunteers submitted results this year, so the 2022 data were collected from fewer monitored nest boxes. This year's 161 nesting attempts were recorded in 340 monitored boxes, giving a ratio of 0.47 nesting attempt/box. For comparison, last year's ratio was 0.53 nesting attempt/box. This suggests that bluebirds were less likely to nest in monitored boxes this year than in 2021. I don't have the information needed to make this comparison for other years.

Why might bluebirds have been less likely to nest in monitored boxes this year? One possible explanation is that there may have been increased competition for the boxes from other birds, including swallows and wrens. Anyone who has observed the nest boxes at Bald Hill or Finley NWR can tell you how intense this competition is during the nesting season. However, the Bluebird Trail doesn't collect quantitative data on nesting by other species, so it isn't easy to evaluate this explanation.

The numbers of eggs that were laid, eggs that hatched, and chicks that fledged were also lower than average this year, but these reductions are largely

explained by the smaller number of nesting attempts. The number of eggs that were laid per nesting attempt and the percentage of chicks that fledged were very close to the 2009–2021 averages, while the percentage of eggs that hatched was a little lower than average.

Weather is a major factor impacting nesting success in bluebirds. Cool, wet weather can lead adults to abandon nests or cause chicks to starve to death, as the adults have difficulty finding enough food for themselves and their chicks. Spring 2022 was especially wet in the Willamette Valley. At our home in north Corvallis, for example, we collected 13.55 inches of rain from April through June, more than twice our average for that period (5.85 inches) since we moved here in 2014. July and August were dry, as usual.

Can we see an effect of our wet spring weather in the 2022 nesting data? Table 2 compares the nesting data from spring 2022 (first egg laid between April 7 and June 20) and summer 2022 (first egg laid on or after June 21).

<b>Table 2</b>	Spring 2022	Summer 2022
Nesting attempts	129	32
Eggs laid	661	142
Eggs laid/nesting attempt	5.1	4.4
Eggs hatched	492	112
% Eggs hatched	74	79
Chicks fledged	412	109
% Chicks fledged	84	97

Although fewer eggs were laid per nesting attempt in the summer, the percentage of eggs that hatched was somewhat higher, and the percentage of chicks that fledged was much higher. In 2020, when we had another unusually wet spring, the fledging percentage was also much higher in the summer than in the spring (91% vs. 80%). Fledging percentage is a good measure of nesting success, so the results from 2022 and 2020 indicate that nests begun in the summer were more successful than those begun in the spring.

*Matt Lee*

## Diversity & Inclusion

### National Audubon Society: Renaming Project Update

From the National Audubon Society 10/14/2022:

Dear Chapter Leaders,

Since the last update regarding the Audubon Naming Project, we have received a number of questions and inquiries regarding the process that the Board Task Force is undergoing in addition to more clarity on how and when our Chapters would be part of the process.

I share the information below in an effort to be as transparent as possible and outline the extent to which this process is striving to be rigorous, thoughtful, equitable and in line with our Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging (EDIB) values.

The audience engagement effort will consist of a survey, 1:1 interviews and small group listening sessions to be conducted in October and November. The Task Force will also review case studies to learn from the experiences of other organizations that have gone through similar processes. This effort will solicit input and perspectives from both internal and external audiences ensuring representation across roles, demographics and geography.

We understand that many of you may have strong feelings about this topic and would like to make your voice heard. This Monday, October 17 you can expect a link to an audience engagement survey where you will have the opportunity to do just that.

In an effort to support your role as a chapter leader, we have compiled a list of FAQs below to help guide conversations in your chapter. We will continue to be responsive to your questions as best we can.

#### **Why are we doing this?**

We understand that there are varying opinions regarding the actions of historical figures and that many feel passionately about their views. Before

coming to any conclusion about the use of John James Audubon as our namesake, we are committed to listening to the input from our community, including chapter leaders such as yourself, as well as members, volunteers, donors, partners and staff.

For brief overview of who John James Audubon was please read Audubon publications:  
“What Do We Do About John James Audubon?” by J. Drew Lanham, Audubon Magazine, Spring 2021 <https://www.audubon.org/magazine/spring-2021/wh-at-do-we-do-about-john-james-audubon>  
“The Myth of John James Audubon,” by Gregory Nobles, Audubon Magazine, July 31, 2020 <https://www.audubon.org/news/the-myth-john-james-audubon>

### **What will be done with my response?**

The entirety of the audience engagement effort is being performed by our consultant- sparks & honey - so that we can ensure anonymity of individual respondents and to mitigate bias in the process. The insights gained from the surveys, interviews, and listening sessions will be synthesized by sparks & honey and presented to a Board Task Force in the coming months.

### **Who should I contact to share my opinions?**

We understand that many have strong feelings around this topic and we encourage you to use the survey as the outlet for your perspectives to help inform the Board Task Force’s review.

Please do not reach out to Chapter Services to provide your input. Opinions shared through the survey go directly to our consultant, to help retain anonymity and ensure ease of compiling feedback. We are unable to record and tabulate opinions not submitted through the survey at this time.

### **When will a decision be made?**

With the amount of input that is being collected, the current plan is for sparks & honey to synthesize the audience engagement data and present it to the Board Task Force in December after which the task force will deliberate, culminating in a

recommendation to the Full Board in February 2023.

### **What does this mean for my chapter?**

We recognize the power of a network unified in name and we recognize the power of a chapter’s self-definition. As independently incorporated entities, each chapter has the autonomy and authority to make decisions in respect to their naming as best serves their needs.

Some chapters name their organizations after prominent geological features, others after conservationists. Some have never had the name Audubon in their organization’s name at all. Still other chapters are eschewing the word “society” as it can be seen as exclusionary and superfluous. We welcome all of your organizations in our network, regardless of name.”

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*The National Audubon Society Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, & Belonging Team (EDIB) provided the above update to the Audubon chapters regarding the Audubon Naming Project. On 10/14/2022, an email was sent to the chapter leaders with a link to the survey. The deadline to respond to the survey was 10/26/2022 but was later extended to 10/28/2022.*

*Local members of Audubon Society of Corvallis can direct questions to members of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee: Suzanne Ortiz, [audubon.corvallis@gmail.com](mailto:audubon.corvallis@gmail.com); Dave Mellinger, [dmell3.14159\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:dmell3.14159(at)gmail.com); and Ray Drapek, [raydrapek\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:raydrapek(at)gmail.com)*

*Suzanne Ortiz, Diversity & Inclusion*

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## **Hesthavn News**



*Photo by Ray Drapek*

On September 25, eleven volunteers from NV5 Geospatial came and pulled English hawthorn and Himalayan blackberries. It was difficult work, but the volunteers were able to clear many sections of the property. I have been in discussion with Tim Marcella, their volunteer coordinator, about partnering with NV5 Geospatial to transform Ray's Trail into a more accessible trail by laying down concrete. They can offer volunteer labor and expertise on trail construction. I am looking into obtaining grant money to fund this project. With the combined help of grant money and volunteer help from NV5 Geospatial we may be able to make a significant new improvement to Hesthavn.

## Hesthavn Work-Party Schedules

For weed work parties, we will focus on the following: Himalayan blackberry, English hawthorn, stinky bob, yellow archangel, shiny geranium, and English ivy. For the barn and yard work parties, we will work from a checklist which includes tasks ranging from weeding Ray's trail to cleaning the bathroom. All work parties go from 10 AM to noon (though Kim and I may do some work before or after that time period).

Nov 6: Weed Work Party

Nov 20: Barn and Yard Work Party

Dec 4: Weed Work Party

Dec 18: Barn and Yard Work Party

Check the [ASC website](#) or the [Hesthavn Facebook page](#) for up-to-the-minute info.

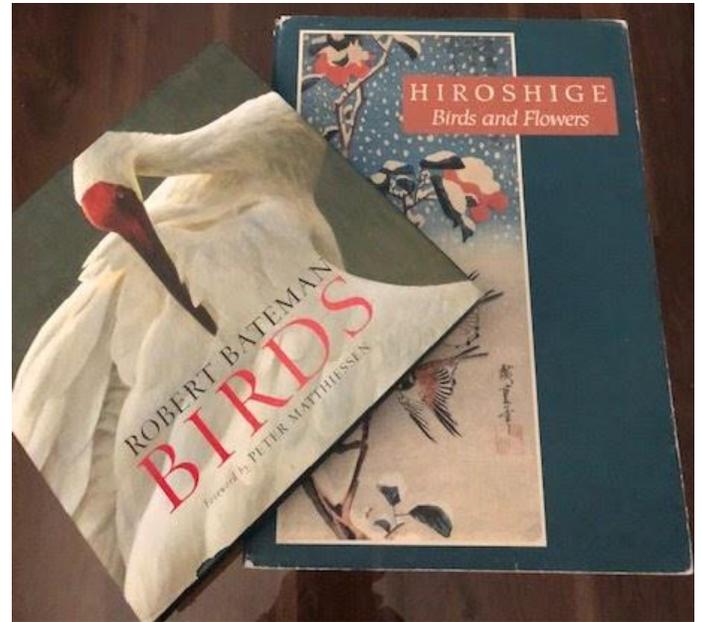
*Ray Drapek, Hesthavn Chair*

## Our Trails Are Open to Enjoy Nature

Hesthavn's trails and outdoor facilities are open to our guests during daylight hours.

**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 brown signs for 'Nature Center.' Hesthavn will be on your left shortly before the end of Oak Creek Dr.

## Book & Raffle Table Gift Books Featured!



A dozen lovely gift-quality hardcover books will be featured at November's ASC meeting on Thursday, Nov. 17. Among the books offered will be *Hiroshige Books and Flowers*, an introduction to the work of Utagawa Hiroshige (1797-1858), master Japanese printmaker. One reviewer has written that Hiroshige's work expresses the "...poetic and idyllic sense of nature." His stunning bird prints invite you into his world of serenity and peace.

Another book you'll find at the Book & Raffle table is Robert Bateman's *Birds*. Internationally acclaimed wildlife artist and naturalist Robert Bateman has sketched and painted in every corner of the globe. This particular edition of his work contains an introduction by Peter Matthiessen.

We'll be adding more quality gift choices to the table! Come take a look at them and the raffle prizes we'll be offering to help fund our meeting room rental.

As always, if you cannot attend the Nov. 17 meeting but would like one of these featured books, just write or text me and I'll be glad to hold it for you. ([shaws@peak.org](mailto:shaws@peak.org), 541-757-2749)

Thank you for your continuing support.

*Sally Shaw, Book & Raffle Table*

# Community Notes

## Corvallis Sustainability

The City of Corvallis has released the 2022 Sustainability Report covering the period from July 2021 to June 2022. Click the link for the full report: <https://archives.corvallisoregon.gov/public/ElectronicFile.aspx?dbid=0&docid=3111742>

Here are a few highlights:

- 102-Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramps were constructed for improved sidewalk accessibility
- 7 upgraded pedestrian signals were installed at intersections to improve accessibility through audio/visual improvements
- The “Corvallis Walking Map,” was created to identify all of the “people only” paths that connect streets to parks, schools & other streets  
<https://archives.corvallisoregon.gov/public/ElectronicFile.aspx?dbid=0&docid=2766202>
- The first of the “Neighborhood Bikeways” was created on 11th Street. This is part of a “Low Stress Network” that will reduce the number and speed of cars and enhance conditions for bike riders and walkers.  
<https://www.corvallisoregon.gov/publicworks/page/neighborhood-bikeways>
- “Wayfinding signage” was installed on multi-modal paths as part of a new Neighborhood Bikeways system. The first phase includes 19 navigation signs to help cyclists and other path users reach key landmarks in the community.
- Restoration projects in 2022 focused on Sequoia Creek wet meadow and the Orleans Natural Area
- Two new electric buses were ordered for the transit fleet

The 2022 Sustainability Reports also discussed the anticipated loss of ash trees from the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) following its discovery in Forest Grove, OR, in June 2022. There are currently 10,000 ash trees in our parks, riparian areas, natural areas and on

private properties and there are 1,665 ash trees in Corvallis’ right of way areas. To compensate for this anticipated loss, Corvallis is increasing tree planting and monitoring. Traps have been placed around the City to monitor for EAB and the City will continue to set traps to detect and ID other insects such as Gypsy moth, Asian Gypsy moth, and Japanese beetle.

*Note to our readers: Community members who are interested in planting more trees can contact the City of Corvallis Parks & Recreation Department to see if you qualify for a free tree to be planted in the median, parkway, or planter strip on your block. The first step is to request an inspection from the Parks & Recreation Urban Forester, who will help analyze the available space, identify any underground utilities, and account for proximity to other infrastructure. If the location fits the criteria, you can help choose the tree from a list of pre-approved species that have been selected based on their appropriateness for right-of-way planting. To get started, contact Jennifer Killian, the Corvallis Urban Forester, at 541-754-1723 or send an email: [jennifer.killian@corvallisoregon.gov](mailto:jennifer.killian@corvallisoregon.gov)*

*Suzanne Ortiz, ASC liaison to the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition*

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## Winter Wings Festival



**Dates: Friday February 17, 2023  
through Monday, February 20, 2023**

**Host site: Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech), 3201 Campus Drive, Klamath Falls, Oregon, 97601**

Website: [www.WinterWingsFest.org](http://www.WinterWingsFest.org)

Registration opens around mid-December 2022; check website for details.

For information call 877-541-BIRD (2473) or email to [info@winterwingsfest.org](mailto:info@winterwingsfest.org)

The Winter Wings brings together birders and photographers to learn and explore with top notch professionals and enthusiastic local guides. The Klamath Basin is renowned for its massive wintering population of Bald Eagles, but is prime habitat for many other raptors including owls, as well as a diversity of waterfowl. The 2023 Festival will feature singer/songwriter and raptor specialist Jen Hajj and award-winning photographer Ray Hennessy. Join us for an extensive array of field trips, workshops, presentations, and receptions that highlight the wonders of the Klamath Basin in winter.

*#winterwingsfestival*

## CTGR Needs Volunteers!

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (CTGR) Native Plant Nursery welcomes volunteers to help in their plant nursery. Contact Jeremy Ojua to obtain information about the schedule for upcoming one-type-events and information about completing and signing the required liability waivers:

[Jeremy.Ojua@grandronde.org](mailto:Jeremy.Ojua@grandronde.org)

There is also a drop-in program for volunteers who are interested in a more regular role. This type of participation requires additional forms, screenings, and an orientation. You can contact Jeremy at the above email address.

*Suzanne Ortiz*

## 6th Annual Champinefu Series

The second webinar in the 6th Annual Champinefu Series will take place on November 9th at 7 PM. Dr. David Lewis will give the presentation about “The Kalapuya Seasonal Round at the Confluence.” The Kalapuya moved throughout their homelands to various locations as the seasons changed, a pattern described

as living in the seasonal round. Dr. Lewis will focus on the ecological communities at the confluence of the Willamette and Marys River.

Dr. Lewis is an assistant professor at Oregon State University in the School of Language, Culture, and Society and a member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

The Champinefu Series is co-sponsored by the Marys Peak Group of the Sierra Club, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Corvallis Sustainability Coalition, Spring Creek Project, and the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library.

To register for the free webinar, click on:

<https://bit.ly/2022champinefuseries2>

*Suzanne Ortiz*

## 2022 MacArthur Foundation Fellow

J. D. Lanham, PhD, ornithologist, naturalist & writer & poet was selected as a 2022 MacArthur Foundation Fellow.

Lanham’s writings include his memoir, “The Home Place: Memoirs of a Colored Man’s Love Affair with Nature” & the 2013 essay, “9 Rules for Black Birdwatchers.” Click the first link for the MacArthur Foundation video on Dr. Lanham.

<https://www.macfound.org/fellows/class-of-2022/joseph-drew-lanham#searchresults>

Click here for his 2020 essay, “9 Rules for the Woke Birdwatcher.”

<https://orionmagazine.org/article/9-rules-for-the-woke-birdwatcher/>

*Suzanne Ortiz*

## Insights Into Gardening

The Benton County Master Gardener Association is resuming our one-day educational conference, *Insights Into Gardening*. The date for 2023 is Saturday, February 11 at LaSells Stewart Center on the OSU campus (across from Reser Stadium). The program will run from 9:00 in the morning until 3:30 in the afternoon.

*Jana Tindall*

# Board Meeting Summary

**October 13, 2022**

Present: Phyllis Bailey, Nikki Cross, Ray Drapek, Karan and Jim Fairchild, Rachel Handy, Dave Mellinger, Suzanne Ortiz, Carolyn Peterson, and Marge Popp

The meeting was called to order by Dave Mellinger at 7:00 PM.

Introduction of new members: Nikki Cross, Instagram Manager and Rachel Handy, Secretary.

## **Treasurer – Carolyn Peterson**

Balance, same as financials. Paid insurance. Did Federal and State filings, however IRS issue is still underway and has been extended another 60 days.

## **VP/Program - Mai Kiigemagi**

Our September meeting was attended by about 35 people in person and 12 on Zoom. Eric Preston noted that the program was also viewed several times after it was posted on the website. Our October speaker is Manuela Huso, who will speak on Wind Energy and its effects on wildlife. Dave has kindly volunteered to run the technology while Eric is on vacation. The next meeting will take place in the Oak Room.

## **Education – Phyllis Bailey**

Fall Migratory Bird Week activities at Finley NWR went well! Participants came from Salem, Eugene, and Corvallis. Goal is to do more in the future at other locations such as Hesthavn and bird walks conducted at Lamprey Creek at MLK Park and other local areas. Instagram (IG) would be a great place to advertise these events.

## **Conservation - Jim Fairchild**

OSU Dept. of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Sciences gifted their 16-box volume set of Academy of Natural Sciences/AOU set of species accounts for The Birds of North America to the Audubon Society of Corvallis. Now available online to professionals by subscription, this printed version is better described on the following Buteo Books webpage:

[https://www.buteobooks.com/mm5/bna\\_print.html](https://www.buteobooks.com/mm5/bna_print.html). We are currently unable to keep this valuable collection but would like to make it available to interested individuals or organizations.

Please reply to Jim Fairchild directly at [jim@alderspring.net](mailto:jim@alderspring.net)

- Oregon Audubon Council is meeting this weekend in Lincoln City, OR. Jim plans on attending the Saturday work session, where we will review past and set upcoming annual state-wide conservation priorities. Each state Chapter is allowed two delegates, additional folks are welcome to attend. Jim will provide a publishable overview of OAC priorities for the December '22 CHAT and website.
- Jim continues to represent ASC on a newly forming Siuslaw National Forest based collaborative, The Oregon Central Coast Forest Collaborative, which envisions providing a science-based approach to making management decisions on federal and other cooperating landowners forest lands (for more information see [https://cascadepacific.org/?page\\_id=808](https://cascadepacific.org/?page_id=808)).
- Related to the above, Siuslaw NF has six local stewardship groups that prioritize awarding revenue generated from the Forest to restoration projects on non-federal lands that are deemed beneficial to federal land resources. Our local Mary's Peak Stewardship Group will be presenting a project on Reese Creek (tributary to Muddy Cr then to Mary's River) to restore stream conditions, designed and implemented by the Mary's River Watershed Council. Jim can forward a copy of the Reese Creek restoration work and application.
- The OSU College of Forestry continues its MacDonald-Dunn Research Forest planning; Jim is on one of two advisory bodies (one is public and one is faculty). He will continue to voice community concerns over process, due consideration of climate and forest carbon, revenue generation for general college operations beyond research forest needs, and plan compliance.

- Last week Jim attended a guided visit into the Corvallis municipal watershed to view the most recent logging operation that thinned replanted older clearcuts and an escaped slash burn wildfire above two of the three water intakes. In recent years both of these water intakes have been forced to shut down because of inadequate summer stream flows. Regardless of cause, Corvallis is losing some of this critical water supply, while at the same time it has adopted plans to withdraw even more water from this Rock Creek watershed. Its Forest Stewardship Plan is two years beyond required revision.

### **Hesthavn - Ray Drapek**

Ray updated us on his contact with Tim Marcella from NV5 Geospatial. They did a work party test run at Hesthavn with his volunteers (roughly 15 came for this event) and removed invasive plant species. They even brought their own tools. The volunteers had great skills, and even offered budget advice! Future potential for Tim's group includes a partnership aspect with recurring volunteers for specialized projects such as the accessibility upgrades to Ray's Trail.

The timing of this volunteer group was quite fortuitous as there is also an Oregon Parks & Rec grant program offering options from \$10,000 to \$150,000 that require a 20% in-kind support piece. Ray will be submitting a grant proposal for \$35,000 in order to make the 2/10 mile trail ADA accessible with asphalt (Phase 1). The deadline to submit is November 15th, with approval in April and then 2 years to complete the project. Ray is already thinking ahead to Phase 2 and Phase 3, such as constructing a concrete pad under the maple tree that would be wheelchair accessible, and an ADA bathroom with composting toilets.

As a side note, there was discussion about the social media and marketing aspect to these updates. It would be beneficial to take before, during and after photos and videos to share on our SM platforms, website, and newsletter which would all be great ways to create more visibility within our community. Additionally, another project discussed was using a phone or GoPro to make videos of our trails that can be posted online so that folks with accessibility needs

are able to watch the videos and decide whether our trails could accommodate their needs.

### **Field Trips**

4 planned trips so far; will be shared in the Chat and Instagram (IG) would also be a good place to share this info.

April: Rogue Valley

May: Malheur

June: Summer Lake

August: Bandon/South Coast

Although these are preliminary dates, organizers are planning to rent vehicles (vans) in December for the following year. Dates are TBD, but there is discussion of week vs. weekend days to try to accommodate different peoples' schedules. Lodging and food still in progress.

### **Social Media/Publicity – Nikki Cross**

Please send any items/events/notifications to share on our Instagram page to our new IG manager, Nikki. Her email address is: [nikkicrossapplesauce@gmail.com](mailto:nikkicrossapplesauce@gmail.com)

Also, ok to share across various channels to expand our bubble, including Audubon chapters in Albany, Eugene, Salem, Lincoln City, Portland, and Klamath.

Nikki will share our upcoming Wind Energy talk on IG. Sue Powell manages the website and Nancy DeMasi manages FB – communicate and connect with them to share content across these platforms.

### **Sustainability**

Expansion of Coffin Butte landfill – difficulties with public input due to taskforce workgroup. Nevertheless, comments are still important and being accepted and shared via email and the website – keep sharing!!

### **Diversity/DEI – Suzanne Ortiz**

The DEI is contacting groups to connect with, goal is to create connections within our community.

ELAKHA Alliance gave a presentation at BCHS regarding sea otter reintroduction in Oregon (work in progress) – public support is important for pursuits such as this because there are many stakeholders involved. Suzanne reported there was good turnout at

the event. On Tues 10/25 there will be an ELAKHA Alliance science symposium.

### **President's report/New Business - Karan Fairchild**

Legacy issues to consider:

- Audubon email addresses and passwords, Facebook, Instagram, website passwords and account information, bank account information, etc.
- IG account – cannot retrieve login information since previous manager has moved and we are unable to get in touch with her.
- Would be convenient/best practice to get a shared group email, where shared documents can also live.
- Original graphics and information for things like brochures and signs - where are these items, both physical and electronic, being kept for future availability?
- More to be discussed to resolve these issues.

Next Board Meeting will be Nov. 10th, time and location TBD.

Meeting adjourned by Jim Fairchild at 8:15 PM.

*Rachel Handy, Secretary*

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## **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.

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## **Membership Corner**

Welcome New Members!

Shikhar Hatwal

Jenny Saarloos

## **General Membership Renewal Information**

For membership renewal online go to 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 administrator (Karan Fairchild, mail to: [alderspr@peak.org](mailto:alderspr@peak.org) and request to be added.

## **Have You Changed Your Contact Info?**

If you have moved recently or changed your email/mail addresses, please update your information by emailing it to [adamus7@comcast.net](mailto:adamus7@comcast.net).

Thank you for your generosity and support!

*Paul Adamus, Membership Chair*

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## **Contributors to this Chat**

Paul Adamus, Don Boucher, Nikki Cross, Ray Drapek, Duncan Evered, Rachel Handy, Mai Kiigemagi, Suzanne Ortiz, Sally Shaw, Jamie Simmons, Caryn Stoess, Jana Tindall, Meika Vingelen, and Dodie Wilson

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## **Chat Articles**

The Chat editors (Kelly Collins, 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 Monday of the month, unless another date is indicated in the Chat

calendar the previous month. Submit text and photos to: [chateditors@gmail.com](mailto:chateditors@gmail.com).

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## Calendar

- Nov. 12: Second Saturday Field Trip (8 AM – Noon, Willamette Park)
- Nov 6: Weed Work Party (10 AM – noon, Hesthaven)
- Nov. 10: Board Meeting, place TBD
- Nov. 17: General Meeting, Worth Mathewson, Band-tailed Pigeons (7 PM, CCC Oak Room)
- Nov 20: Barn and Yard Work Party (10 AM – noon, Hesthaven)
- Nov 21: Chat Deadline
- Dec 4: Weed Work Party (10 AM – noon, Hesthaven)
- Dec. 8: Board Meeting
- Dec. 15: General Meeting, Member Slide Show (7 PM, CCC Oak Room)
- Dec 18: Barn and Yard Work Party (10 AM – noon, Hesthaven)
- Jan. 19: General Meeting, Ram Papish, Wildlife Art on Interpretive Signs (7 PM, CCC Oak Room)
- Feb. 16: General Meeting, Fred Ramsay, Birds of Mongolia (7 PM, CCC Oak Room)
- Mar. 16: General Meeting, Marina Richie, Belted Kingfishers (7 PM, CCC Oak Room)
- Apr. 20: General Meeting, Don Boucher & Lisa Millbank, A Yard Full of Native Plants, Birds, Bugs and More (7 PM, CCC Oak Room)
- May 18: General Meeting, Bob Beschta, Trophic Cascades (7 PM, CCC Oak Room)

**Board and Member meetings may have to be canceled or changed to ZOOM due to pandemic challenges, so please check our [website](#) for the latest scheduling info.**



Fly Agarics, *Amanita muscaria*. Photo by Don Boucher

## Officers

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## Interested in volunteering?

Please let us know:

[volunteerasc@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerasc@gmail.com)

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