



THE CALLIOPE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST CASCADES
AUDUBON SOCIETY

WINTER 2014

From the Executive Committee

Well, here it is, 2014 already. And another great year for the East Cascades Audubon Society is in the record books. This year, 2014, we'll be doing something different – governing by committee. After Sherrie Pierce's tenure as ECAS President, where she set the bar 'way up there', no one on the Board is willing to volunteer to be President (the Vice President does not automatically become President). Sherrie attended almost every committee meeting, Executive Committee meeting, Board meeting, and every event that ECAS was involved in from Eagle Watch to Old Mill bird walks, and all the others. Countless hours on the phone, countless emails, and miles on her car. Heavily involved with the Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival and our very successful Annual Event. Following Sherrie as the 2014 President is a no-win situation! Everyone on the current Board is busy and/or still working – hence the governing by Committee! My thanks and those of the rest of the Board to Sherrie for a wonderful job!

ECAS will continue to be active in 2014, continuing all of our programs from last year and adding new ones. We are fortunate to have such a broad base of excellent volunteers that help with all our programs. Thanks for all your volunteer efforts last year and your continuing efforts this year. We can always use more volunteers – bring a friend or sign up for one of our many programs or activities.

Ken Hashagen, Vice President

MORE INSIDE

	<i>Page</i>
<i>Zono Quartet, a poem from Marion Davidson</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Blast from the Past-- Winter 31 Years Ago</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Annual Event 2013</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Books and Birds, a Review of ADVENTURES OF A BIRD-WATCHING FAMILY</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Out of Town</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>What's Happening</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Fall 2013 Field Notes</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Welcome New Members!</i>	<i>8</i>

ZONO QUARTET
(Heard along the River Trail)

Golden-crowned Sparrow:

Oh dear me

Late for tea!

White-crowned Sparrow:

Cheese, cheese . . . chili, chili cheez cheez

Golden-crowned Sparrow:

Passing through.

White-throated Sparrow:

It's all about food, about food, about food.

Harris Sparrow

(silence)

Marion Davidson

Blast from the past - Winter 31 years ago

As we are shivering for a few weeks trying to turn our body thermostats to the winter setting, the birds seem to do it with ease. Birds on Hatfield in November 1982 included Surf and White-winged Scoters, and a Long-tailed Duck even joined them for a week. A Thayer's Gull was on Mirror Pond on November 26.

Club members were having "hammering" parties at the Lewis's (Ellen Lewis is still residing and birding in Redmond) to make bird boxes and feeders to sell. Club members were also encouraged to make "quality" items for the annual Christmas Bazaar. Kathy Crabtree made some lovely burlap bags with stenciled birds on them (for birdseed, which was also sold) and the Andersons made some nice and authentic looking painted plaster rabbit, owl and swallow ornaments for the holiday trees. Back in these times, fundraising activity was important to the membership, which hoped to save enough to have a center someday for their "Audubon House". The money made by many hard working volunteers was later used to help the Environmental Center become a reality. Our Audubon meets there to this day, in the Audubon Room. And some of those early funds may still be in our ECAS coffers, helping to educate

young birders, fund equipment, reimburse mileage for distant surveys, or buy materials for nest boxes.

Name changes to birds included Northern Harrier from the Marsh Hawk and Whistling Swan became Tundra Swan. So now you know, when some of us older birders are saying "I see a Marsh Hawk", we are using a term that changed 31 years ago! As predicted in that newsletter of November 1982, name changes can be hard to remember!

Bend CBC compiler at the time, Cal Elshoff, put out a call for volunteers for the upcoming Bend CBC. The countdown and pot luck was to be held at the High Desert Museum. More recent Bend CBC countdown potlucks have been held at the Environmental Center, and the homes of Tom Crabtree, Steve Kornfeld, Dave and Janice Tracy, and Craig and Marilyn Miller. The Redmond and Madras CBCs are quite new, both started by Kimdel Owen, while the Prineville CBC was started by Chuck Gates almost 20 years ago and the Sisters CBC by Steve Shunk 15 or so years ago. How time flies. For 2014, consider resolving to participate in a CBC in your home "circle" and perhaps an additional one that may not get enough participation. We call it citizen science but we also call it FUN! Winter birding can be great fun and you meet such delightful people and birds.

Judy Meredith

Annual Event 2013

Over 200 ECAS members and friends gathered at the Bend Senior Center for an evening of fun, fellowship, and fundraising on November 9. Fun was provided by wildlife artist Rod Frederick who regaled the audience with a pun-laden slideshow about "The Jungle Out There", by Mary Yanalcanlin's ever popular "Kids' Corner", and by Chuck Gates' high-speed review of the birding year in Central Oregon. Kevin and Deb Black-Tanski set the tone with upbeat music, while Kim and Michelle Kathol made sure everyone was well fed.

The Annual Event is also an opportunity to recognize people who have made special contributions to ECAS programs and to birds and their habitat.

Jay Bowerman was named Conservationist of the year. Jay is a biologist, naturalist, and researcher and has served as manager of the Sunriver Nature Center for thirty years. His involvement with Central Oregon Audubon dates to January 1974 when he presented a slide show titled "Patterns in Nature". At that time, he shared "recent" studies of nesting Bald Eagles between Crane Prairie and Wickiup Reservoirs! This summer his research on the Oregon Spotted Frog intersected with the nesting Virginia Rails at the Old Mill District. As a result a cooperative cattail-pulling event was held to the benefit of the pond ecology.

Bill Smith, the owner of William Smith Properties, received the Community Conservation award. As developer of the Old Mill District, Bill took the lead on restoring important wetland habitat used by native species including birds. He also has an ongoing interest in birding as a recreational and educational pursuit, partnering with ECAS to print an Old Mill Birding List, securing binoculars available for public use, and allowing ECAS volunteers to lead bird walks along the Old Mill property. His responsiveness to the needs of nesting Virginia Rails and Oregon Spotted Frogs living in one of the several ponds along the property resulted in survival for both.

Chuck Gates was honored as Volunteer of the year. Along with his many contributions to the Central Oregon birding community, Chuck coordinated the North American Migration Count in

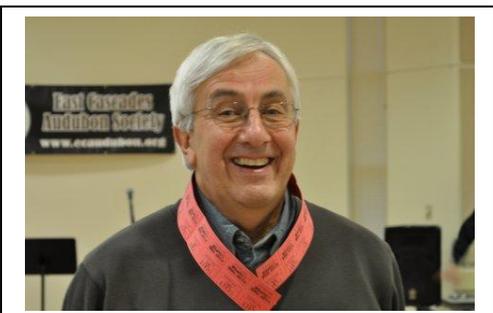
Oregon for twenty years and created Birding Sites of Oregon, an online resource that has become a standard of reference in the birder community. Now retired from his teaching career, ECAS looks forward to his continuing contributions and leadership in future avian endeavors



Chuck Gates, Kim Boddie, and Anne and John Gerke received awards at the 2013 Annual Event.

Desiree Johnson and Kim Boddie were Education and Project Volunteers of the Year respectively. Desiree volunteered countless hours developing and delivering presentations and curriculum, especially to those attending Fledgling Fun. Her tireless dedication and direction over the past three years has been unflagging. She brings her enthusiasm for learning to children and adults alike. Kim has taken the lead on organizing, compiling, and reporting on the Green Ridge Hawk Migration project since its inception. His dedication to the six weeks of variable weather, early mornings, long days and rewarding sight of many raptors winging their way south, is representative of a true volunteer spirit.

George Jameson was honored for the many hours he contributed to the Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival, bringing his technical expertise, ideas, and manpower to the event. He was also a valuable resource for classroom presentations and shared his wonderful photography. Finally, a lifetime family membership was presented to John and Anne Gerke for their leadership and commitment to the mission of the organization. John has served on the boards of both ECBC and ECAS with Anne as his support, while Anne served officially on the ECAS Board this past year ably filling the role of Secretary.



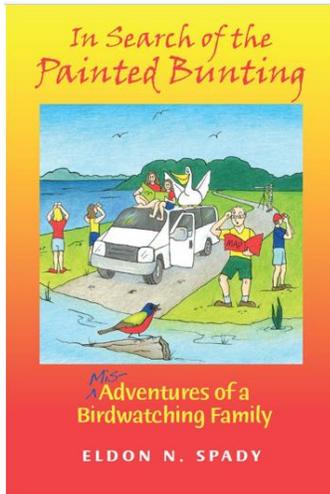
Board member and raffle ticket seller Jon Putnam was one of the many volunteers who contributed to the success of the Annual Event. Photo by Kim Boddie.

The Annual Event is also a fundraiser that provides major support for all our education, conservation, and science programs. This year, sixty-eight people became members or renewed their memberships, bringing \$1875 into the treasury. The raffle generated \$1436, the silent auction brought in \$3787, and \$611 came in from donations, book sales, and donated tips. Many thanks to all the volunteers, donors, purchasers, and members who made the evening a great success.

Mary Oppenheimer

Books and Birds

Can we ever have too many books? My answer is no! Having raised chickens for over forty years, I used to get “all things chicken” as gifts, including books. Since I’ve been more actively birding the last several years, I now get “all things birdy”, including books! I personally like the birdy books better than the domestic fowl ones. Too many reference guides? Where would you draw the line? And then there are the others. This past Christmas I received three new titles – Must-see Birds of the Pacific Northwest, On Rare Birds, and Bird Brains. These will provide many happy hours of winter reading, especially if another cold snap or inversion hits.



One book that I recently read is by local author and ECAS member Eldon Spady. Eldon and wife Lorraine retired to Redmond after his long career in business management. His first book, *The No-drama Manager*, seemed to follow on his career path. The second one, *In Search of the Painted Bunting*, reveals a side with which most of us can identify – a birder at heart. Using the Amazon self-publishing business Createspace, he has produced a mid-sized, attractive paperback appropriately subtitled, “Adventures of a Birdwatching Family”.

The family includes Eldon and Lorraine, his brother Ken and wife Irene, sister Dorothy and husband Ted, nephew Steve and wife Angie and occasionally granddaughter Haley and great-niece Channing. The first thing Eldon does in the preface is identify them as birders, not birdwatchers. He then makes a strong case for the fun aspect of this leisure-time activity. As he relates their adventures in birding, his dry wit and humor reflect this interest in fun. Given the resultant bird lists at the end of each chapter, these are serious birders but they seem to always find the humor in any given situation.

The book recounts seven trips the group took over approximately eight years. Each trip was designed around note-worthy birding locations. For many readers, one or more of the destinations will be familiar, and you can compare notes with the group’s experiences. For others, it may whet your appetite to visit a new part of the country. Each chapter includes some information about logistics, accommodations, history, and birding areas. The tone is folksy and positive. Any negative experiences are usually tempered with a dose of humor. And you do get to know the individual family personalities.

The locations visited were Southeastern Arizona (twice), High Island and East Texas Coast, Cape May, New Jersey, Texas Coast and Rio Grande Valley, Costa Rica, and Southern Georgia Coast where finally, the book title is revealed. Eldon’s style is folksy, not overwhelming with bird-nerd descriptions. Some might want more of that flavor but his listings at the end of each chapter of birds seen on the trip, listed by day (with no repeats) are excellent. His “Appendix: Birds-sighted List”, is also a valuable resource putting the birds seen alphabetically and cross-referenced to locations. At 204 pages, with a few sepia-toned family pictures, this is a nice read for some armchair traveling. Keep your bird guide handy to check out the rest of the story.

Sherrie Pierce

What's Happening

Wednesday Birders continue to meet each Wednesday, generally at Nancy P's in Bend. As Calliope goes to press, the starting time is 8am, but this will change to 7am as the days grow longer. Be sure to check our web site for exact starting time and place for each trip. Information is also posted on COBOL. To sign up for COBOL, email jmoodie@cocc.edu.

Birding for Preschoolers continues at 10am each Monday in Drake Park. Fledgling Fun meets on January 13 and continues on the second Monday of each month through May. All Fledgling Fun programs are held at The Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend, from 3:45 to 5:15pm. The programs are aimed at K-5th grade, but all ages are welcome. Details at www.ecaudubon.org.

Birders' Nights this winter feature ECAS Vice-President Ken Hashagen on "Birding Sri Lanka" on January 16 and High Desert Museum Natural History Curator John Goodell on "The Ghost of the Forest: A Closer Look at the Northern Goshawk" on February 20. On March 20, there will be a special treat as Jim Anderson joins us with "Reflections on Fifty Years of Bird Banding". Programs are held at The Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend. Doors open for coffee, snacks, and conversation at 6:30pm, with the evening's program beginning at 7pm.

Out of Town

Winter and early spring are times when many of us in Central Oregon look forward to getting out of town, perhaps to a birding festival. Here are three possibilities to consider this year.

Winter Wings Festival in Klamath Falls, February 13-16. Registration for this wonderful festival sponsored by Klamath Audubon is now open. Sherrie Pierce, Cindy Zalunardo, and I attended last year and were very impressed. Speakers, field trips, and facilities were all outstanding. This year Bill Thompson III, editor of Birdwatcher's Digest, will lead field trips and present the Saturday night keynote on the Perils and Pitfalls of Birding — a humorous narrative about mistakes, accidents, and embarrassing situations he has experienced in his 30+ years as a birdwatcher. Other special guests include Brian Sullivan, photography keynoter Rick Samson, and "birdchick" Sharon Steteler. The cost is reasonable, and the festival is only three hours away. If you'd like to experience a very special birding weekend, register and support Klamath Audubon. For more information, and to register, go to www.winterwingsfest.org.

San Diego Bird Festival on Mission Bay, February 27-March 2

Further away, but much warmer, this festival sponsored by San Diego Audubon features an amazing number of trips, workshops, and presentations. There are bike trips, kayak trips, beginning birder sessions, and service projects along with estuary walks, traditional field trips, and a pelagic. A session on digiscoping with smartphones could be very interesting. For information and to register, go to www.sandiegoaudubon.org.

Olympic BirdFest in Sequim, Washington, April 4-6

The featured speaker at this festival is Noah Strycker on "Bird World: the Fascinating Parallels between Bird and Human Behavior". As we go to press, more detailed festival information is not yet available, so if you're interested keep checking at www.olympicbirdfest.org.

Mary Oppenheimer

Fall 2013 Field Notes

Fall is the longest birding season for a reason. Once the hectic pace of breeding subsides, birds meander their way south with much less urgency than they had on their way north. Hormones will do that to you. Because fall encompasses four months (Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov), the bird list for fall is often pretty substantial. Below are the highlights of the fall 2013 season.

Because of the multifaceted character of water (few other substances can be found as a solid, liquid or gas within a relatively narrow temperature range), water birds are forced to move out of the northern regions to seek open water. Many pass through our area on their way to warmer climates. Some even stay for the winter. Single SNOW GEESE were located in several areas, mostly in Deschutes County. A ROSS'S GOOSE spent the month of November on or near Hatfield Lake. Over 100 CACKLING GEESE were counted during the season while the resident Hatfield Lake TRUMPETER SWANS were the only members of that species tallied. EURASIAN WIGEON were found at the Prineville and Madras Sewage Ponds. Several GREATER SCAUP spent a week on Suttle Lake. SURF SCOTER numbers were high with up to 13 at Wickiup at one time and smaller numbers found throughout the tri-county area. A very rare BLACK SCOTER was seen by a few lucky birders on Wickiup Reservoir. WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS seemed to be present in larger numbers, much like their surf cousins. Up to five at a time could be seen at Wickiup and smaller numbers showed up on Suttle Lake, Prineville Sewage Ponds, and Lake Billy Chinook. The Prineville Sewage Ponds provided the only LONG-TAILED DUCK of the season. RED-BREASTED MERGANSERS were reported from Wickiup, Suttle Lake and Hatfield Lake. PACIFIC LOONS showed up at Wickiup and Prineville Reservoirs while a single (and much more unusual) RED-THROATED LOON was found on Wickiup. HORNED and RED-NECKED GREBES were present in small numbers in the major water locations. An AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN was found on Hatfield Lake on October 29 for a very late Deschutes record.

On the shorebird-gull front, most of the regular species were spotted, and some rarities occurred as well. A BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER was found on Wickiup as was a BLACK-NECKED STILT. A total of eight SOLITARY SANDPIPERS were tallied this season including a late record on October 9. A SANDERLING report came in from Wickiup. (If you haven't figured it out by now, Wickiup is a pretty good place to bird in the fall.) A RUFF stayed several days at Hatfield Lake and a RED PHALAROPE made a brief appearance at the same location.

Both LONG-TAILED and PARASITIC JAEGERs were seen locally this season. Three different THAYER'S GULL reports came in, and a very unusual GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL was found at Wickiup Reservoir right at the end of the season. SABINE'S GULL sightings were made at Tumalo Reservoir, Wickiup Reservoir, and Hatfield Lake. Up to 22 COMMON TERNS were seen on Wickiup while single bird reports came in from Prineville Reservoir and Fireman's Pond in Redmond. Peter Low and Lew Rems found a rare ARCTIC TERN on Wickiup and there was only one report of BLACK TERN (Hatfield).

I'll lump the Game Birds and the Raptors into one arbitrary section just to save some space. Four DUSKY GROUSE were located on FR 27 northeast of Prineville and SOOTY GROUSE reports were received from near Tumalo Falls and Black Butte. RUFFED GROUSE were found at Glaze Meadow west of Sisters and at the Pine Creek Conservation Area. Five CHUKAR were heard on Hwy 27 south of Prineville. WILD TURKEYS were spotted at Camp Polk Meadow and at the end of Skyliners Road. An unusual RING-NECKED PHEASANT showed up northeast of Sisters, and BAND-TAILED PIGEONS were reported from Green Ridge, Cold

Springs Campground, and east of Bend. NORTHERN GOSHAWKS were spotted throughout late September and early October on Green Ridge. Eighteen reports of RED-SHOULDERED HAWKS came in with four birds at Prineville Reservoir being the high-count for the season. Two BROAD-WINGED HAWKS were seen on Green Ridge on separate days. Just about twenty different PEREGRINE FALCON reports were noted. Owl reports included BARN (Prineville), FLAMMULATED (Skyliners Road and off Mill Creek in Crook County), WESTERN SCREECH-OWL (Pine Creek Conservation Area), BARRED (Hwy 126 east of Sisters), GREAT GRAY (GW Burn west of Sisters), and LONG-EARED OWL (Powell Butte).

Fall 2013 produced some good non-passerine land bird sightings. BLACK SWIFTS were spotted several times near Tumalo Falls. Tom Crabtree located a COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD for one of the only records of this species this year. BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD is a bit hard to locate in Deschutes County so a male at Jim Moodie's feeder in Deschutes River Woods warrants its inclusion on this report. A YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER showed up east of Bend and four THREE-TOED WOODPECKERS were located in the Pole Creek Burn.

In the fall, millions of passerines flow out of the boreal forest and many pass our way. Some get lost (we call them vagrants) and give us some unusual birds to see. Others just don't seem to get the timing right, and they end up migrating later or earlier than usual. A BARN SWALLOW was seen on the Prineville Sewage Ponds on November 3 for a pretty late record. CHESTNUT-BACKED CHICKADEES were found near the Cascade crest west of Sisters. A very unusual Deschutes County BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE was seen and heard along the 1st Street Trail in Bend. BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHERS are not all that unusual along the Crooked River in the fall but a single bird at the Redmond Sewage Ponds was, in fact, unusual. Merle Greenway found a SWAINSON'S THRUSH on October 16 in Redmond for a rare October record. BOHEMIAN WAXWINGS were found in late November near Hatfield Lake and in northeast Bend. ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLERS are usually gone by mid-October so a single bird found in Madras on November 15 was pretty surprising. SWAMP SPARROWS were located in five different locations late in the season and two CLAY-COLORED SPARROWS were seen near Entrada Lodge during the NAMC. WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS began arriving in small numbers in mid-October, and HARRIS'S SPARROWS were found at Haystack Reservoir and in east Bend. Hatfield Lake produced a BOBOLINK on September 3 and a LAPLAND LONGSPUR on November 24. Amazingly, Kim Owen located a YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD at Fireman's Pond in Redmond on November 22. This species usually leaves the area in early September. Finally, GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-FINCHES were located on Mt. Bachelor and in the South Sister area.

Chuck Gates

Welcome New Members!

Thanks for your support!

Cathy Beck, Bend	Kim Lightley, Powell Butte
Austin Buskohl, Bend	Pat Johanson, Bend
Lynn and Gary Clark, Bend	Louise and Bernard Martell, Portland
Susan Dolan, Bend	Gene McNurney, Bend
Nick Downing-Barrier, Bend	Jerry and Chris Moore, Bend
Matthieu Federspiel, Powell Butte	Wendy Beth Oliver, Redmond
John Goodell, Bend	Rosalind Richards, Bend
Cindy Harvey, Bend	Donald R. Scott, Redmond
Mary Holding, Bend	Tom Shreve, Tigard
Linda Hendrix, Bend	Eldon and Lorraine Spady, Redmond
Will Lacey, Sisters	Steve Wilkins, Bend
Christina Leslie, Bend	

EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY

P. O. Box 565, Bend Oregon

www.ecaudubon.org

<i>Board Members</i>	<i>Committee and Event Chairs</i>
<p>President Vacant Vice-President Ken Hashagen Secretary Sherrie Pierce Treasurer Jan Rising Board Members Cathy Beck Tom Crabtree Karen Gentry Jon Putnam Kevin Smith</p> <p>Winter 2014 Board Meetings January 25 (Board Retreat) February -- no meeting March 4</p> <p>Board meetings are held at The Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas, Bend. All members are welcome to attend. Future Board meeting dates can be found in the activity calendar at www.ecaudubon.org. Board minutes are also posted at that site after approval by the Board.</p>	<p>Annual Event Sherrie Pierce Bluebirds Ken Hashagen Birders' Night Diana Roberts, Nancy Merrick Communications Jon Putnam Conservation Vacant Education Mary Yanalcanlin Field Trips Howard Horvath, Tony Kutzen Finance Terri Hyde Green Ridge Raptors Kim Boddie Lake Abert Study Steve Dougill Lewis's Woodpeckers Diane Kook Membership Jan Rising NAMC Vacant Newsletter Mary Oppenheimer Science Sue Tank Summer Lake Survey Steve Dougill Technology Steve Dougill, Vaux's Swifts Bob Johnson Mary Anne Kruse Volunteers Sherrie Pierce Wednesday Birders Judy Meredith Howard Horvath Woodpecker Festival John Gerke Winter Raptor Survey Jeff Fleisher Young Birders of Annette Gerard Central Oregon</p> <p><i>If you would like to volunteer for a committee or event, please contact Sherrie Pierce at 541-548-4641.</i></p>
<p><i>Contact information for Board members, Committee Chairs, and Project Leaders is posted at the "Contact Us" button on the ECAS website.</i></p>	

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