

# THE CALLIOPE

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY

# **FALL 2016**

# From the Board -- Education is for the Birds!

One of the stated goals of East Cascades Audubon Society is to further bird study and conservation through educational programs. To achieve that goal, we support projects that further the knowledge and appreciation of birds and their habitats. Several programs geared primarily to adult interests are Birders' Night, Field Trips, Wednesday Birders, Birding By Ear, and the Old Mill Bird Walks. But what about the kids?

Mary Yanalcanlin has been a mainstay in that department. For the past six years Mary and Desiree Morris have created and delivered a curriculum targeted towards grades K-5 called Fledgling Fun. Held the second Monday of the month, October through May, at the Environmental Center, 3:45 – 5:15 pm, it will start its seventh year on October 10<sup>th</sup>. Last year 159 children and 76 adults attended this fun program, learning about a different bird facet or group each session. A responsible adult must accompany kids, so it is a good way to include some adult learning as well! This year's topics are Birds of Bend, Waterfowl, Owls, Bird Beaks, Crows, Jays, & Magpies, and Bird Behavior. In May a Bird-Day Celebration caps off the year. For a complete list of topics and dates go to http://www.ecaudubon.org/fledgling-fun.



Birding for Preschoolers at Drake Park on a sunny day. Photo courtesy of Mary Yanalcanlin, who is at the far end of the bridge with her hand raised.

MORE INSIDE	Page
Save the Date Annual Event on November 12	2
Conservation Committee Moves Ahead	2
Out of Town Winter Wings Reminder	3
Blast from the Past Summer 1986	4
Swan Success at Summer Lake	5
Summer 2016 Field Notes by Chuck Gates	5
What's Happening	9
Welcome New Members	10
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Mary also leads a Birding for Pre-schoolers session in Drake Park every Monday, come rain or shine, from 10 - 11 am. Last year 376 children and 242 adults participated in the 52 sessions. Again, kids must be accompanied by an adult who then becomes a learner as well. This has also grown to include a variety of home-school attendees.

In addition to these regular programs, ECAS also responds to community requests from schools and other organizations such as Cove Palisades State Park, the Deschutes Land Trust, and Bend Parks and Recreation. In the school year 2015 -16, ECAS volunteers interacted with 520 young people in various settings. Eagle Watch in February and Earth Day in April also have volunteers presenting information and displays, including interactive projects for children.

Finally, the ECAS Facebook page provides a resource for learning about birds. Pictures have been posted primarily by volunteers Chuck Gates, Tom Lawler, Don Sutherland, and Mary Yanalcanlin. Currently 638 "likes " have been recorded, up from 382 last year. Views per posts generally range from 150 to 800, but occasionally there are over 1000 views. See all of this at <a href="www.facebook.com/East-Cascades-Audubon-Society-153526518047351/">www.facebook.com/East-Cascades-Audubon-Society-153526518047351/</a> and like us! Current information about upcoming events and activities can also be found at the site.

Many volunteers give of their time and energy to bring these programs to the young people of our community. Support through memberships, the Annual Event Silent Auction, and the Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival helps underwrite these programs. Thank you!

Sherrie Pierce, Board Education Liaison

# Save the Date -- Annual Event on November 12

The Bend Senior Center at 1600 SE Reed Market Road in Bend will once again be the site of ECAS' Annual Event beginning at 5:30 pm on November 12. This is an evening of fun and fellowship, with music, food, beer, and Mary Yanalcanlin's outstanding Kid's Corner, where even adults can have their wingspans measured. It's open to everyone, whether an ECAS member or not and it's absolutely and completely free.

Steve Shunk, who was profiled in the Summer 2016 CALLIOPE, will be the keynote speaker. He has assured us that he has a wide repertoire of woodpecker talks and will entertain us with a completely different presentation than those he's made at Birders' Night and at the Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival.

The Annual Event is also a fundraiser for our programs, including the children's programs and the conservation projects described elsewhere in this issue. You can support our fundraising by donating bird-related objects and other goodies for our silent auction and books for our book table, buying raffle tickets, and bidding enthusiastically for all the items on the silent auction table.

Raffle items include the items pictured below: Eagle Optics Ranger ED 8x42 binoculars, the original Lisa Walraven painting for the popular Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival, a DHWF16 T-shirt. and a hand-made bird quilt by Susan Cross of Sisters Also raffled will be two Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival 17 tickets, combined with two nights at Eagle Crest. If you have objects to donate to the book sale or silent auction, please contact Sherrie Pierce at <a href="mailto:sapierce@bendbroadband.com">sapierce@bendbroadband.com</a>.



Finally the Annual Event is also our official Annual Meeting, at which new directors are elected. This part of the meeting is early in the evening -- usually at 5:30. If you are an ECAS member, come early and participate in an election that will make you happy.

Mary Oppenheimer

# Conservation Committee Projects Move Ahead

In the Spring 2016 issue of CALLIOPE, Board member and Conservation Chair Tom Lawler outlined four conservation efforts ECAS might undertake -- fence markers for Sage Grouse, stock tank escape ramps, pit toilet vent caps, and bird surveys. Thanks to energetic volunteers, significant progress has been made on these projects.

## Fence markers for Sage Grouse



Placing markers on barbed wire fences dramatically reduces collisions with fences. These are simple plastic tags that are placed every three feet down the fence line. As you can imagine, it takes a lot of these markers to do a mile of fence. On August 23, a dozen ECAS volunteers gathered at the Garrett's house for the first ever marker party. They spent over an hour putting reflective tape on over a thousand white fence markers that will be put on high-risk fences this fall. It was not all work -- much lively conversation took place. This fall, working with the Prineville BLM, ECAS volunteers will put markers on at-risk fences in the 400,000 acre Brothers Priority Area for Conservation south of Brothers. If you'd like to help, please email Stu at garret@bendcable.com.

## Stock tank escape ramps



When birds land in stock tanks the inevitable result is the bird's death. Large or small, escaping from stock tanks with vertical sides is not something birds (or even other small mammals) can do. Tom Lawler worked with the La Pine High School Life Skills program to have ramps built, based on a design provided by Deschutes National Forest staff. LPHS built four ramps, and they were installed at four grazing locations east of Bend on May 26th. Tom and four ECAS volunteers went with three DNF staff to install the ramps. Before building more ramps, the Conservation Committee is waiting for feedback from DNF to see how well the newly installed ramps work.

#### Pit Toilet Vent Caps



Those big plastic vents coming out of pit toilets are potential death traps for birds and bats. Slowly (as money is allocated by federal organizations) caps that allow venting but prevent animals from entering are being placed over these open pipes. Many toilet vents have been capped in the Deschutes National Forest, but there are a number that still need to be done. Thanks to an ECAS Laughrige grant of \$1534, ECAS purchased 50 vent caps. Tom Lawler, Tom Penpraze and Ted Groszkiewicz spent three hours wrapping the sides of the caps with wire mesh to prevent bats from entering through the side of the cap. The next step was installing the caps. So far, the two Toms, Ted Groszkiewiz, Diane Burgess and Kara Jakse, have installed nineteen caps in the Deschutes National Forest.

ECAS will also provide two caps to Bend Parks & Recreation to cap the toilet next to the Shevlin Park parking area. The Ochoco National Forest has also expressed interest in working with us, and we will also work to have ODOT rest area toilets and other national forest toilets anywhere in Central Oregon capped. If you see a pipe in the Bend/Sisters/Sunriver/La Pine area that hasn't yet been capped, please let Tom know at tilawler@crestviewcable.com.

The Conservation Committee has several additional projects under consideration, and members and others have undertaken a substantial restoration of the Cabin Lake Blind. More on that and additional projects in the next issue.

Tom Lawler, Conservation Committee Liaison

# Out of Town -- Winter Wings Reminder

Online registration for the Winter Wings Festival in Klamath Falls, the oldest birding festival in the United States, opens at 9am on December 10. The festival is February 16-19. Speakers include Paul Bannick and Saul Weidensaul.

## Blast From The Past -- Summer 1986

Summer was busy for birders in 1986. Field trips to all corners of central Oregon often combined birding with other natural delights. Christy Steck led a birds and botany trip around Big Summit Prairie. A hike around Broken Top with geologist Bruce Nolf enjoyed birds, flowers, and geology. Riparian birding in the Maury Mountains with biologist and riparian specialist Harold Winegar offered birds as well as a study of "cows in creeks". Sue Anderson led a butterfly census around Camp Sherman, and the group found 30 species. Glenn Van Cise led a canoe trip on the Deschutes, for streamside birds. Jack Schwartz led a hike to Jack Lake and Canyon Creek Meadows for birds, spectacular scenery, and wildflowers. Craig Miller, conservationist extraordinaire, led eight birders on a two day hiking and camping trip to explore several BLM wilderness study areas east of Bend.

Perhaps this makes you yearn to get out birding with leaders who can enrich the experience with broad knowledge of nature. Consider volunteering to lead a trip to one of your favorite places and sharing your knowledge. (*Editor's note: The position of field trip coordinator is open. Consider volunteering.*)

Audubon was determined to focus on young people, funding a year of "Audubon Adventures" (monthly learning modules) in four classrooms in Madras. Several classrooms at Kingston in Bend already were using Audubon Adventures. A student from Madras was awarded a scholarship to attend Camp Hancock for a week. Perhaps in those days, our Jim Anderson was one of the leaders there.

Evening programs were also varied. Jeff Gilligan brought slides (remember them?) and stories of his trip birding in Australia. Riparian biologist Harold Winegar discussed a section of Ochoco Creek with erosion problems that had been "channelized" by the Soil Conservation Service, in partnership with a local rancher who shared the expense for the project. He commented that the expensive hauling of stones used riprap along the edges of the stream reduced the function of the stream for fish and wildlife habitat and cost five times what organic riprap would cost. The organic material (pine, juniper wood) would have met wildlife needs and made it a healthy stream. Mr. Winegar encouraged and worked toward healthy streams for many years, especially in Crook County. When you see streams lined with willow and vegetation, and perhaps a singing warbler, send up a high five for this good biologist.

Field notes for the summer concluded that shore bird activity was slow locally. Tom Crabtree, field notes editor, commented that the best bird of the summer was a first Mew Gull for the county at Tumalo Reservoir. Summer Lake however, was described as "fantastic" with shorebirds reported by Craig Miller, as well as 106 Black Terns counted on the loop. A Green Heron at Suttle Lake and a Snowy Egret at Ochoco Reservoir were certainly noteworthy and remain rare for central Oregon locations. In the forest, while surveying woodpeckers, Rebecca Goggins found SIX pair of American Three-toed Woodpeckers nesting around Cultus Lake. And lastly, Great Gray Owls in the Spring River area managed to successfully fledge two youngsters. For a number of years, that location was dependable for the owls. You could occasionally meet out of state birders there, seeking a good life view of a Great Gray Owl.

Doesn't it sound like this was an exciting summer to be a birder in central Oregon! COAS was a busy chapter. Perhaps you will consider ramping up your activity and volunteering. Hopefully, reading this has given you some ideas about what you could make happen!

Judy Meredith

## Swan Success at Summer Lake

Since 2009, The Trumpeter Swan Society has partnered with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to restore a healthy breeding population of Trumpeter Swans to eastern and central Oregon by releasing Trumpeter Swans at Summer Lake. To support this project, ECAS made a \$1000 Laughrige grant to The Trumpeter Swan Society last December to purchase two Trumpeter Swans from the Wyoming Wetland Society and transport them to Summer Lake. While we don't have a photo of "our" swans, you may enjoy some evidence of the success of The Trumpeter Swan Society's project. For more information on The Trumpeter Swan Society, go to <a href="www.trumpeterswansociety.org">www.trumpeterswansociety.org</a>. You may also be interested to learn that this year's Duck Stamp features the Trumpeter Swan.



Four cygnets hatched at Summer Lake, Oregon in June! These first-time parents were themselves released as yearlings at Summer Lake a few years ago. Photo by Marty St. Louis.

# SUMMER 2016 Field Notes by Chuck Gates

Many of us can remember the summer of "76", riding around in our parents' car and hearing these lyrics on the radio,

"Cause it's summer Summer time is here Yes, it's summer My time of year Yes, it's summer My time of year" I can't help but think birds feel the same way about summer. It's a time for most of them to raise and feed a new family. For the adults, it's a season that starts with the conclusion of mating rituals and ends with the departure of the fruits of their summer labor. For the juveniles, it's the beginning of life in the idyllic setting that is Central Oregon. For both, it's truly, "My time of year".

Below, I've gathered the most interesting bird sightings from the summer of 2016. Enjoy!

Only a few waterfowl breed here as most head north to the potholes and oxbows of the north to procreate. Some do stay, and the best are listed here. No fewer than 4 TRUMPETER SWANS were nesting at Gutierrez Ranch in Crook County (Gates, ECAS Field Trip). A rare summer COMMON LOON was seen at Wickiup Reservoir (Low) and a pair of HORNED GREBES bred at Guitierrez Ranch (Gates, ECAS Field Trip). As in years past, CLARK'S GREBES were fairly easy to find at Prineville Reservoir, and AMERICAN BITTERNS bred again at Houston Lake in Powell Butte (Gates). Several GREAT EGRETS were spotted at that same location throughout the summer (Gates). A BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON was located along the Crooked River in Prineville (Dougill).



Pacific Golden-Plover at Hatfield Lake, 7/5/16. Photo by Don Sutherland.

Shorebirds and Larids (gulls and terns) begin showing up in our area around the 4th of July. The standard fare were seen this summer but there were also some unusual sightings. A PACIFIC-GOLDEN-PLOVER made a brief appearance in July at Hatfield Lake (Sutherland). Two SOLITARY SANDPIPERS were found at the Redmond Sewer Ponds (Dougill) and several WILLET were seen at Wickiup (Low, Rems). SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPERS were reported from Hatfield Lake (Rems). A FRANKLIN'S GULL turned up at Houston Lake (Gates) and a BLACK TERN was seen at Wickiup Reservoir (Miller).

Most of our Game Birds are local nesters and year-round residents. However, some are harder to find than others. Smith Rock produced the only only CHUKAR report from the area this summer (Kutzen). MOUNTAIN QUAIL were located north of Sisters at Green Ridge (Gates, Hashagen, Dougill) and Lower Abbott Creek (Shunk). A male RUFFED GROUSE was heard drumming on NF 27 east of Prineville in June (Kopitzke, Gerig).

On the diurnal raptor front, the really big news was the location of two nesting sites of PEREGRINE FALCONS in dispersed areas of northern Deschutes County (K. Smith, Vick). The exact coordinates of these locations will remain obscure to protect the birds. It should be noted that the first nesting site in decades was only located last year and to confirm another Deschutes site is very encouraging. NORTHERN GOSHAWK reports came in from Calliope Crossing (Dougill), Deschutes NF 1018 (Crabtree), Deschutes NF 1026 (Moodie), Hosmer Lake (Johnson), Dillon Falls (Gaspari, Lennon) and Deschutes River Woods in Bend (Moodie).

There are 13 species of owls that breed in Central Oregon. One would think, with these numbers, they would be easy to locate. Au Contraire mon frere! Many species went unreported this summer and that is far from abnormal. BARN OWLS bred in the Prineville area (Gates), and FLAMMULATED OWLS were heard in the mountains west of Sisters (Gates, Hashagen, Gonzalez, Proebsting). WESTERN SCREECH-OWLS nested in the junipers in Powell Butte (Gates) and at Alder Springs (Nance). Several pairs of BURROWING OWLS were located in the Paulina region during the ECAS Crook County Field Trip (Gates, Meredith, ECAS Field Trip). Three GREAT GRAY OWLS were heard calling east of Sisters during the DHWP Festival "Owl Prowl" (Gates, Hashagen, Gonzalez, Wisel), and another pair was observed near Sunriver (Frank, Vine, Jeske, Crabtree, Sutherland et.al.). The only BARRED OWL recorded this summer came from Suttle Lake (Kutzen). Only Mark Gonzalez could muster the endurance and talent to find NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWLS this summer with two hits in the hills above Sisters. NORTHERN PYGMY-OWLS were reported from Ryan's Meadow (Dougill), Maury Mountains. (Gates, Beck, Jett), Todd Lake (Shunk), Green Lakes (Jett) and Calliope Crossing (Lordi, Martyn, Dougill).



American Three-toed Woodpecker along Trout Creek Road, 6/19/16.
Photo by Chuck Gates.



Eastern Kingbird at Little Creek Reservoir, 6/25/16. Photo by Chuck Gates

Near Passerines are a group that includes the nightjars, hummingbirds, woodpeckers and swifts. Unusual Near Passerine sightings are always of interest to local birders. COMMON POORWILLS nest widely in Central Oregon but the only reports of this species came in from Sisters (Tank), Eastern Crook County (Groo) and Trout Creek (Gonzalez, Gates, Hashagen). A WHITE-THROATED SWIFT made a rare stopover at Hatfield Lake for unusual record at this location (Low). BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRDS were seen Sisters (Gerkes) and near Poison Hollow in the Ochoco Mountains (Robinson). Quite a few lucky souls got to see AMERICAN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER along Trout Creek Rd. (Shunk, Pierce, Horvath, Hashagen et. al.), Island Meadow Trail (Jett) and Todd Lake (Shunk).

Finally, we had some wonderful Passerine sightings this summer . There was an absolute plethora of EASTERN KINGBIRDS this summer. This species was reported from nine different locations in all three counties (Gates, Mack, O'Donnel, Dougill, C. Smith, Tinsley, Neuman, Arneson) with the 14 birds at Gutierrez Ranch topping the list. An ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER showed up in Bend, well away from its normal habitat of juniper forest (Crabtree). CHESTNUT-BACKED CHICKADEES were spotted at Todd Lake (Shunk), near Horse Lake (Jett), Suttle Lake (Kutzen) and Scout Lake (multiple observers.

It's almost become blasé to encounter BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHERS in Crook and Jefferson counties (C. Gates, D. Gates, Hyde, Bradford, Minty et. al.). BEWICK'S WREN reports came in from near Ashwood (C. Smith) and Lower Bridge (Moodie et. al.). SWAINSON'S THRUSH were seen at Indian Ford Campground (Shunk) and near Suttle Lake (Kutzen). A well described VEERY showed up at Sunriver at the beginning of the season (Rurik). Three different GRAY CATBIRDS were verified: Rvan's Meadow (Dougill et. al.), Warm Springs (Withgott) and Camp Polk Meadow (Shunk). A rare BLACK-



Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at North Shore Road 6/1//16. Photo by Chuck Gates.

BLACK-THROATED SPARROW made a brief showing at Smith Rock State Park (Hamon) and a ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK was seen in Shevlin Commons (Low). Both BOBOLINK and TRICOLORED BLACKBIRDS were found nesting in Crook County by multiple observers. Josh Little found a GRAY-CROWNED ROSIE-FINCH on his hike up the South Sister. A very rare summer WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL was located during the DHWP Festival at the Park Meadow Trail (Kutzen, Hoffman).

For detailed descriptions of the locations mentioned above, check out the Oregon Site Guide on the ECAS website at http://www.ecaudubon.org/ and click on the "Birding Oregon" tab.

"'Cause it's summer Summer time is here Yes, it's summer My time of year Yes, it's summer My time of year"

Contributors: Chuck Gates, Steve Dougill, Don Sutherland, Lew Rems, Peter Low, Craig Miller, Tony Kutzen, Ken Hashagen, Steve Shunk, Jim Kopitzke, Roy Gerig, Kevin Smith, David Vick, Tom Crabtree, Jim Moodie, Robert Johnson, Andrew Gaspari, Aileen Lennon, Mark Gonzalez, Jeff Proebsting, Stephan Nance, Cathy Wisel, Andy Frank, Milton Vine, Tye Jeske, Cathy Beck, Courtney Jett, Danielle Lordi, Kristen Martyn, Sue Tank, Tyler Groo, John Gerke, Anne Gerke, W. Douglas Robinson, Sheri Pierce, Howard Horvath, Jay Withgott, Cody Smith, Don Hamon, Mary Mack, Alice O'Donnel, Chris Rurik, Joel Rurik, Joel Tinsley, Colby Neuman, James Arneson, Dorothy Gates, Terri Hyde, Bill Bradford, Lora Minty, Wayne Hoffman and Josh Little.

# What's Happening

<u>Wednesday Birders</u> continue to meet each Wednesday, generally at Nancy P's in Bend. The meeting time is usually 7am, but it will change to 8am later this fall. For more distant locations

the starting time may be earlier. Be sure to check our web site or COBOL for exact starting time and place for each trip. Rare birds may cause last minute changes..

Birding for Preschoolers continues at 10am each Monday in Drake Park.

Fledgling Fun will resume on October 10. Read our lead story and visit <a href="www.ecaudubon.org">www.ecaudubon.org</a>
for more details on these great programs for kids.

## Birders' Nights

Everyone, ECAS member or not, is welcome at our free Birders' Nights held every month except July and December. Each meeting features announcements of coming birding events and unusual bird sightings before a talk on a topic of birding interest. Programs, which are free and open to all, 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..

#### October 20 "Seventeen Years and 2850 Kestrels Later..."

North American Kestrel numbers plummeted by 44 percent between 1966 and 2010. But how are Kestrels doing in Central Oregon? In 1997, Don McCartney of Bend started placing Kestrel nest boxes in Central Oregon. Assisted by 13 volunteers the Kestrel Team has now installed 110 nest boxes and fledged 2,850 young falcons. For the last three years, the Kestrel Team has supplied its nesting data to the American Kestrel Partnership, a project launched by the Peregrine Fund to unify data gathering about these beautiful birds. This year, the Kestrel Team also joined a collaborative DNA study supported by UCLA, Boise State, and Hawkwatch International Join us to learn all about this exciting conservation and research project from Don McCartney and Diane Kook.

## November 17 "Captivating Cranes of the West"

On Thursday, November 17, we join wildlife photographer and ECAS member David A. Rein as he captures images of Whooping Cranes wintering at Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas, of Sandhill Cranes at breeding grounds in alpine meadows, and of the great gathering of Sandhill Cranes on the North Platte River in March. Trained as an environmental engineer, Dave has been an avid photographer since his youth. He has participated in eight research expeditions with Earthwatch, and his photographs have appeared in a number of magazines. You can learn more about Dave and view his work at www.davereinphoto.com.

Welcome New Members! Thanks for your support				
Isai Backus Doug Butler Ken Chamberlain Jim Denman Jenette Durkee Bruce Edmonston Joann Edwards Dale Freese Karen Haviland	Bend Bend Portland Bend Portland Bend Bend Bend Bend Bend	Steve Heuser Andy Kizans Roberta Legendre Jim Little Betty Posner Linda Stump Jean Wang Debbie Williams	Redmond Bend Sunriver Florence, OR Bend Bend Prineville Bend	

## EAST CASCADES AUDUBON SOCIETY

P. O. Box 565, Bend Oregon www.ecaudubon.org

#### **Board Members**

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Corresponding

Secretary Sherrie Pierce
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Assistant Treasurer John Brune
Board Members Karen Gentry
Tom Lawler

Fall 2016 Board Meetings

October 4 November 1 December 6

Board meetings are held at 6pm at The Environmental Center on the first Tuesday of each month. All members are welcome to attend. Future Board meeting dates can be found in the activity calendar at <a href="https://www.ecaudubon.org">www.ecaudubon.org</a>. Board minutes are also posted at that site after approval by the Board.

Contact information for Board members, Committee Chairs, and Project Leaders is posted at the "Contact Us" button on the ECAS website.

## Committee and Event Chairs

Annual Event Sherrie Pierce
Bluebirds Ken Hashagen
Birders' Night Sue Bertsch
Communications Vacant
Conservation Tom Lawler

Education Mary Yanalcanlin

Field Trips Vacant Finance Terri Hyde

Grants Mary Oppenheimer
Green Ridge Raptors Leanna Taylor
Lake Abert Study John Reuland
Lewis's Woodpeckers
Membership Jan Rising

Newsletter Mary Oppenheimer

Science Mike Golden
Summer Lake Survey Mike Bogar
Technology Ted Groszkiewicz
Vaux's Swifts Bob Johnson

Volunteers Mardi Jensen
Wednesday Birders Judy Meredith

Woodpecker Festival Howard Horvath Ken Hashagen

If you would like to volunteer for a committee or event, please contact

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 <a href="https://www.ecaudubon.org">www.ecaudubon.org</a>.