The Grebe

Klamath Basin Audubon Society
www.klamathaudubon.org
August/September 2011

KBAS General Meetings

Thursday, September 8, 2011, 6:30 p.m. "Western Birds and The Men Who Named Them" by Harry Fuller

Alexander Wilson painting

Steller, Wilson, Cassin, Baird, Townsend, Nuttall, Brewer. These names can bring to mind a drawing in your favorite field guide. But what do you know about these pioneers of ornithology? What bird was first discovered for science in Klamath County? How did one of our hummers get named after an Italian countess? How did British bird artists like Swainson, MacGillivray and Bewick get western American namesakes?

Harry Fuller is a bird trip leader and student of birding history based in southern Oregon. His website is: www.towhee.net. His bird blog can be found online at: atowhee.wordpress.com

Thursday, October 13, 6:30 p.m. "Don't Mess With the Ravens" by Dale and Elva Paulson, from Roseburg, Oregon

This program recounts about a ten day wildlife event that occurred in Yellowstone National Park. It is the interactions of ravens with coyotes, bald eagles and wolves feeding on a couple of bison and an elk that a grizzly pulled from underneath the ice. The digital show will include a few other spring wildlife observations: Sandhill Cranes waiting for the ice to thaw, a red fox hunting, coyote puppies being puppies.

These interactions between the animals are often humorous and intriguing as they compete for meat at this bonanza during the harsh, early spring in Yellowstone country.

The Paulsons work as a team and have been making extended yearly trips to Yellowstone since 1984. Their time there is a combination of studying animal behavior, photographing and sketching. Elva is an accomplished wildlife artist and Dale is a retired National Forest Soil Scientist. Dale and Elva have been photographing wild things since 1971 and have been presenting wildlife related shows since 1980.

Editor Note: Alva Paulson is the artist who created the Grebe drawing for the KBAS logo. Be sure to let her know how much you enjoy the logo each issue of *The Grebe*.

All meetings at the County "Meeting Room," at 4th and Pine Streets, Klamath Falls

Co-President's Message . . . *Dave Potter and Kathy McKeehan*

Co -Presidents off and running – Kathy McKeehan

Dave and I have different interest and expertise. This means that we will be doing many things. There is no way one person can do all the ideas that we have come up with. Our first objective is to make sure that each committee has more than one person. This way there will always be backup and no one gets burned out. For those of you not on a committee, you will be asked to at least be supportive in anyway you feel comfortable and can.

Our Education committee Beth Zemke and Ellen Minichello have already started with a new project, birding with assisted living folk from Eldorado Heights. (All of us will one day be older and I for one do not want to give up my love of birds.) Program chair, Jim Rooks and field trip chair Kevin Spencer are hard at work making sure we have exciting things to do and learn.

With all this activity going on, you need to stay in touch and look at the Web site so you won't miss anything! We will keep it up to date and let you all know by e-mail also when new things happen. Often happenings come up between the times when the Grebe is published.

You will be receiving the new By- Laws by mail. Please take time to read and study. We will be voting on these during our September 8th meeting.

Here is to Great Birding.

Co -Presidents off and running – Dave Potter

KBAS folks have been working hard on many fronts. The 2 hour planning meeting was very productive as was the 2 hour Board Meeting [which approved the budget and proposed bylaws upgrades.]

Dave Hewitt has finished upgrading our web site.

Kathy Essex and Kathy McKeehan are cleaning up our mailing lists. And we are moving toward a nearly all electronic Grebe. As pointed out by several members, many local organizations have successfully gone to near 100% electronic newsletters. It is time. KBAS will save money, reduce volunteer labor and "save a tree." Your Co-Presidents have set a challenge date of the December-January Grebe being primarily electronic. Your job is to submit your e mail address within the next 4 months. Or notify us [addresses in this Grebe] to continue your mailed Grebe.

PLEASE NOTE: If we receive no response and do not hear from you, your last mailed Grebe will be the October-November issue. Forgot? You can always catch up by reading the Grebe on line.

A few hard copies to mail/hand out will be made at a copy store. Bottom Line: KBAS is moving ahead.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

As noted in Dave Potter's Co-President's column above, we plan to send only one more paper version of *The Grebe* – the October/November issue. Many, many organizations have moved to electronic versions of their newsletter, sent by e-mail, and the KBAS Board feels that this is direction we should take in the future.

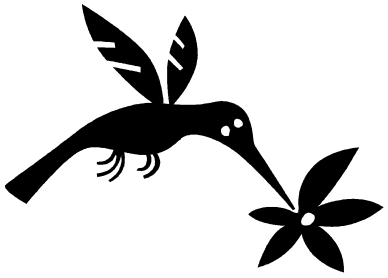
Therefore, between now and the December/January issue [late November] you need to: [1] send your email address to The Grebe Editor at MChristian1@charter.net or call her at 541-850-0084 or [2] notify her that you wish to continue receiving a paper copy. If we do not hear from you, then the October/November issue will be your last one. However, note that The Grebe is posted on the KBAS website. By the way, electronic versions are much more attractive: the pictures are clearer and there are colors! Thank you.

Field Trips Schedule . . . *Kevin Spencer, Chair*

Jean and Al Van Hulzen cordially invite members of KBAS to enjoy birding and a potluck picnic at their home in Rocky Point on Saturday, August 13, 2011, 11:30 a.m. Meet at Fish & Wildlife Office to carpool at 10:30 a.m. If driving separately, you are welcome to come early and bird informally around their lovely property. Bring an appetizer, main dish, salad, or dessert to share, and your own drinks. Plates and utensils will be provided. Also bring insect repellent/long sleeve shirt! RSVP (not required), questions, or directions (if driving separately), call Jean at 541-810-2110 or email her at alvinv@hughes.net. This has become a very fun, yearly event; all are welcome to join in!

Friday-Sunday, August 19, 20, 21, 2011 Abert Lake and Hart Mountain: A weekend trip over to Lake County to observe the impressive numbers at Lake Abert during fall migration. Camping at Goose Lake SP, at New Pine Ck, S of Lakeview, with birding there Saturday a.m. On to Lake Abert, then during Sat. afternoon, travel to Hart Mtn. and camp at base of mountain Sat. night. Birding on Hart Mtn. Sun. AM, returning Sunday afternoon. Contact Kevin Spencer if you plan to go or need more information at 541-884-5739 or rriparia@charter.net

For all field information, contact: Kevin Spencer, Field Trip Chair, rriparia@charter.net or 541-884-5739 if you have any questions, suggestions or can lead a field trip.



NOTE: Please check the KBAS website for updates on additional field trip information: www.klamathaudubon.org

FWS: Fish & Wildlife Office is located at 1936 California Ave., off the on-ramp to Hwy 97 South from Nevada/ Oregon Ave. Times stated are START/LEAVE times.

Klamath Bird Observatory (KBO) and Fremont-Winema National Forest Events

Tuesday, August 9 – Klamath Bird Observatory Bird Banding Demonstration

Join the staff of the Klamath Bird Observatory (KBO) and Fremont-Winema National Forest at 7:30 a.m. at the Seven Mile Guard Station. The guard station is located at the intersection of Forest Service Roads 3200 and 3300 off of Nicholson Road west of Fort Klamath. KBO's long-term monitoring program provides information about the status of bird populations and how they are changing over time in the Klamath-Siskiyou Bioregion. Limited to 15 participants. A $15 donation should be made to KBO upon arrival. To register, call the Klamath Ranger District at 541-885-3400.

Saturday, Aug 13 – Ranger Springs Hike (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.) Difficulty – Moderate

Join a Forest Service employee on a six-mile round trip hike that starts at an elevation of 5,600 feet and gradually climbs gentle slopes to the Pacific Crest Trail and Ranger Springs. View the flora and fauna of the area and see a bubbling spring. Your guide will talk about wildflowers, wildlife habitat and wilderness management practices. Meet at the Sevenmile Marsh Trailhead [approximately ten miles west of Fort Klamath] at 9 a.m. From Fort Klamath, travel east on Nicholson Road to Forest Service Road 3334. No fee is required to park at the trailhead.

Jacqueline Holm, Fremont-Winema National Forest Recreation 541-885-3425 office & 541-891-1273 cell

Field Trip Reports *. . . by Kevin Spencer*

Klamath Marsh-Summer Lake Trip

Many happy campers, 21, on this trip, June 10-12. The final tally was 142 species. Hightlights included: good looks at Green-tailed Towhees, hearing Soras galore and peek-a-boo looks at American Bitterns along the Klamath Marsh. The views from Fort Rock were fabulous, and the Prairie Falcon [plus three chicks in an opening on the rock wall], Rock and Canyon Wrens, White-throated Swifts, and Green-tailed Towhees (again) seen there, were terrific.

Sunday morning found the group walking along the Chewaucan River in Paisley. The sunny morning sun almost caught them off-guard, but close attention to a tanager proved it to be a Summer Tanager, which is rare for Oregon. A large porthole sized opening in the cliff-face along the river had 4 Barn Owl faces staring back.

At Summer Lake the group finally scoped out a pair of Snowy Plovers. And probably the most exciting was viewing birds in close proximity from blinds at Cabin Lake, north of Fort Rock. Seeing a White-headed Woodpecker at about 6 feet away was impressive.

The Yellow Rail trek would have been successful, if the leader had taken the group to the right location! Winnowing Wilson's Snipe however was a near equal entertainment. There were many other interesting encounters, but too many to mention here. June is always a fun time to get out!

Conservation *. . . Dave Potter*

Work [yes, "work"] to save natural habitats for our kids and grand-kids never ends. One gets knocked down some rounds and wins others. However, quit and the "pavers" certainly win.

A look at the current "score board." KBAS sent a strong letter supporting a renewed effort to buy the north end of Link River Trail canyon from bankrupt developers' bank. City Parks and many local groups joined forces. All pulling hard, it may happen.

KBAS' Dennis Taugher put years of work into his dream of a lakeside walking trail. He attracted others. His success story is in this Grebe.

Our Oregon Legislature gave us some wins. Best I could learn ahead of this Grebe deadline: Our bottle bill was expanded. Development of green power was stimulated & locating wind farms was assigned increased scrutiny. Increased fines for intentionally killing raptors & other trophy wildlife passed as did a ban on deliberately feeding certain wildlife species. Three marine sanctuaries were passed: Heceta Head, Cape Falcon & Cascade Head. Increased protections for farm & forest passed. When do we get everything we want?

The "bird seed" bill failed for some reason. So did the plastic bag ban. The Governor may or may not veto a bill that would greatly increase taxpayer funding for predator control killing of many species, a giant step backward in wildlife management. Read Aldo Leopold's [father of modern wildlife management] iconic 1949 book, A Sand County Almanac, re predator control.

Nationally, wins require hard-nosed, strong outfits like the Center for Biological Diversity. Thanks to their decades of struggles on studies, public information, funding & politics - and the threat of more successful lawsuits - the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has agreed to increase endangered species reviews & decisions on over 700 plant and animal species by 2018. Many of these species are slipping away.

Notice

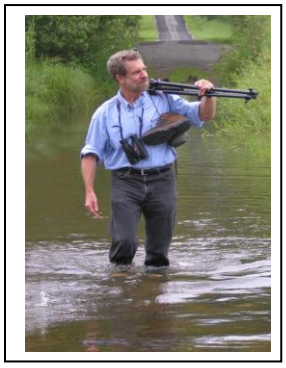
All members should receive in the mail early in August the proposed revised bylaws for KBAS. A committee of dedicated folks has worked for over two years on this. Your KBAS Board reviewed them closely and accepted them June 25. The membership must vote to adopt, or not adopt them and I sure hope for "adopting", these new bylaws at our September 8 general meeting. So please attend the September 8 meeting and plan to vote on this needed revision. If you haven't received your mailed copy of the bylaws by mid August, please contact Robert Kincaid, Kathy or Dave to have one mailed.

33rd Winter Wings Festival *. . . by Diana Samuels*

Planning . . . is already well underway for the 2012 installment of the Winter Wings Festival. One substantial change from past years has to do with marketing. We are transitioning our marketing emphasis from print media, as through the brochure, to the web and social media. We've contracted with a new designer to give the web site a complete facelift (coming very soon) and we'll be using Face book to get out quick updates on program planning and related items.

We invite KBAS members that are on Face book to find and 'Like' our Page. You can find us in the "social network" by searching for the Winter Wings Festival Page with the color eagle logo (not the Group, which has a black and white eagle logo).

Keynote Speakers . . . The Winter Wings Festival program committee is proud to announce that we will have two fabulous keynoters this year -- Kenn Kaufman and Darrell Gulin.



Kenn is a life-long naturalist, a world-renowned birder, and author of numerous books on birding. He will give the Saturday night presentation about his book Kingbird Highway, which describes his hitch...hiking journey in the 1970s to try and break the North American Big Year record of over 600 species, on a budget of less than $1,000.

Darrell is one of the foremost nature photographers working today, and is part of the Canon Explorers of Light program. His presentation on Friday night will focus on his experiences photographing birds in Antarctica, the Arctic, Australia, Africa, and the Pantanal of Brazil, with a special emphasis on feather patterns. See examples of his work below.

You don't want to miss these evening keynoters! The Festival dates are February 17-19, 2012. Let your birding and photography friends know. We'd like a great turnout for these special presenters. They will also be doing some celebrity field trips and some other events.

Take a Hike *. . . by Dennis Taugher, Vice President of Friends of Moore Park*

What's better than a sunrise on a warm morning or a sticky bun at Sunday brunch? One answer: a hike on the newly completed Klamath Ridge View Trail in Moore Park. This 4.6 mile trail takes you from the Eulalona Trail, which parallels the Link River on the east side of the park, to the proposed Buck Ridge development along Lakeshore Drive, adjacent to the Running Y Ranch. The trail will eventually be part of the Great Klamath Circle Trail.

The trail runs parallel to Lakeshore Drive for much of the way, and lies about 3/4 of the way up the Moore Mountain ridge. It takes you through varied terrain, including some forested areas and a patch of oak trees, and it offers up breath-taking views of Upper Klamath Lake in numerous spots. The trail is great for birding and might be an especially good location for migrant songbirds in

Take a Hike . . . Continued

the spring and fall. In the summer, you'll find Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Olive-sided Flycatchers, lots of Bushtits, hummingbirds, and calling Mountain Quail, among the more typical species.

KBAS's Dave Potter, Ken Hay and John Bellon of Klamath Falls City Parks, and myself were all at the initial meeting in August 2009 when this trail was first proposed. It's exciting to see it finally completed, although it is still a bit rough in some places. A Winema National Forest Hotshot fire crew donated time and energy to help cut some new sections, and we are organizing regular maintenance days once a month for weed-whacking, pulling stubs and rocks out of the trail bed, and other chores. A local mountain biking group is putting up directional signs for us. And, if you aren't aware, KBAS provided us a grant for trail-related expenses, including the purchase of a motorized wheelbarrow to ferry supplies along the trail.

Kevin Spencer will be setting up a date for a hike along the trail for anyone that's interested. We could put vehicles on either end and walk the entire distance if folks wanted to. Look for information from Kevin. If you can't join us on this hike, try it out on your own. Contact me at dennistaugher@me.com if you need directions. And, if you can help us out with maintenance (next date is August 13th), contact Dave Hewitt at dhewitt37@gmail.com.

See you on the trail!

Education . . . *by Ellen Minichiello, Education Committee Co-Chair*

Isn't life better with more learning? As I move about this country seeking out life learners, working with them is pure joy. When blended with my passion for outdoor education for all ages, the opportunities are endless. KBAS life learners make me feel at home!

When asked what my hopes and dreams for this committee would be, I first envisioned a nature club because the future lies with our youth. But, people come into birding at all stages of life, and being comfortable with their mentor(s) is a key ingredient. I now envision our Education Committee to be all encom-passing and welcoming to anyone willing to learn.
It's been necessary for me to take time to listen to our community and hear what needs can be filled by our committee. Though still in the process, these ideas appear before us now:

1) Start an after-school nature club, and bring inner city children to areas where they can thrive and learn how to be a part of nature respectfully.
2) Develop a rotation schedule so schools have the option to utilize our educational team and curriculum that meets standards. We will target one grade level.
3) Help create habitat for birds and pollinators for people who cannot get outside, to observe from windows.
4) Assist our elders on more birding trips in good weather. [See pictures below on a birding outing for Elorado Heights Assisted Living In July]

The work of this committee has started with great efforts of Kathy McKeehan. Klamath Basin is rich with natural resource partners, and I know they will work with us to the best of their abilities. Let us know if you want to help. Teaching is learning, and I can attest that it DOES make for a happier life, especially combined with the sights and sounds of our feathered friends.

Audubon Officers Klamath Basin Society & Board Members			
Co-President	*Dave Potter	850-3808	kpottermom@yahoo.com
Co-President	*Kathy McKeehan	882-0291	berfert1@msn.com
Vice-President	*Darrel Samuels	850-5832	dsamuels@charter.net
Secretary	*Julie VanMoorhem	882-4488	jvanmoo@sisna.com
Treasurer	*Mary Kelley	783-3690	mkelley@blc.edu
Members	*Bob Kinkead	882-4910	rkinkead@fireserve.net
	*Ken Johnston	883-7671	kljstn@msn.com
	*Sherry Perry	882-1980	sherryperryphd@msn.com
	*Molly Russel	884-3868	russellx1@msn.com
Klamath Basin Audubon Society Committee Chairs			
Conservation	Dave Potter Ralph Opp	850-3808 882-8488	kpottermom@yahoo.com kfopps@q.com
Education	Ellen Minichiello [774] Beth Zemke [714]	521-5468 287-6988	natureisit@aol.com bethzemke@yahoo.com
Field Trips	Kevin Spencer	884-5739	rriparia@charter.net
Grebe Editor	Marilyn Christian	850-0084	mchristian1@charter.net
Historian	Ralph Opp	882-8488	kfopps@q.com
Hospitality	Beth Philips	723-2161	pidgeco@gmail.com
Membership	Kathy Essex	273-7442	tomkathy_1@charter.net
Programs	Jim Rooks	851-0209	runningyrooks@charter.net
Publicity	*Darrel Samuels	850-5832	dsamuels@charter.net
School Grants	Jim Rooks	851-0209	runningyrooks@charter.net
Winter Wings	Diana Samuels Anne Wenner	850-5832 882-1219	dsamuels@charter.net Kcwenner@aol.com

KBAS MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

Local Membership Dues

☐ Individual: $20
☐ Student and Seniors (62 and over): $15
☐ Family: $25
☐ Here is my tax deductible extra contribution for $_____
Total Enclosed $_____

☐ Check here if you are a current member of national Audubon
☐ Not sure of national membership status
Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ ZIP_____

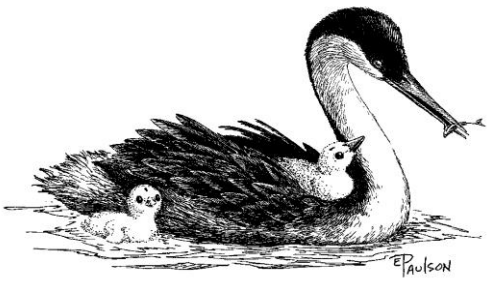
Phone _____ e-mail _____
Klamath Basin Audubon Society - **Chapter Code C1ZT600Z**
Should you join as a first time member of National Audubon, please use the above Chapter Code on your form – we receive additional $$.
Please contact me regarding:
☐ Gift memberships
☐ Volunteering for KBAS Committee activities
Make your check payable to KBAS and mail with this form to: KBAS, P.O. 354, Klamath Falls, OR. 97601

The Grebe

Is published 6 times a year by the **Klamath Basin Audubon Society (KBAS)**

Mission: The Klamath Basin Audubon Society will provide the opportunity for all to experience and appreciate our region's wildlife, focusing on birds and other natural resources.

- KBAS is a chartered chapter of the National Audubon Society.
- KBAS general meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month except June, July and August at the County "Meeting Room," 4th and Pine Streets, Klamath Falls.
- The Board of Directors meets at 6:00 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at the County "Meeting Room," 4th and Pine Streets, Klamath Falls. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- For address changes please contact both National Audubon Society and KBAS, Attn. Kathy Essex, P.O Box 354, Klamath Falls, OR. 97601
- Comments and information to The Grebe Editor are welcomed and encouraged. Send to Grebe Editor, 6749 Coopers Hawk Rd. Klamath Falls, OR. 97601 or mchristian1@charter.net.
- Check our website at www.klamathaudubon.org



The Grebe

Klamath Basin Audubon Society
P.O. Box 354
Klamath Falls OR 97601
August/September 2011

Non-profit Organization
Klamath Falls OR 97601
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #128

Or Current Occupant

- **KBAS General Meetings** are the second Thursday at 6:30 p.m., County Meeting Room, 4th and Pine Streets, Klamath Falls. The agenda:
  - 6:30-7:00 p.m. Gathering and refreshments
  - 7:00-7:20 p.m. Business/announcements
  - 7:20-8:30 p.m. Program
- **KBAS Board meetings** are the first Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m., County Meeting Room, 4th and Pine Streets, Klamath Falls. All members are welcome to attend Board meetings.

- **Klamath Basin Bird News [KBBN] Reminder:** Klamath Basin Bird News is an informal email network (a mailing list) of over 100 bird enthusiasts in the Basin and elsewhere. You can learn more about the group at its web site (https://sites.google.com/site/klamathbasinbirdnews), and it is linked from the 'Birds' section of the KBAS web site. Please participate! Sign up online or contact Dave Hewitt at dhewitt37@gmail.com

- **25th Annual Oregon Shorebird Festival, August 26-28, 2011, Charleston, OR** Field trips, water trips, evening programs. Contact Dawn Grafe @ 541-867-4550 or dawn_grafe@fws.gov.

- **San Juan Islands, October 3-5, 2011, Sequim, WA** Join the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society this fall for a three-day wildlife cruise through the spectacular San Juan Archipelago. Contact 360-681-4076, or email rcoffice@olympus,net. Details at: www.olympicpeninsulaaudubon.org

Inside *The Grebe* . . .

Board/Committee Chairs	Page 8	Field Trip Reports	Page 4
Conservation	Page 5	General Meetings	Page 1
Co-President's Message	Page 2	Klamath Ridge View Trail	Page 5
Education/Senior Field Trip	Page 6	Membership Form	Page 7
Field Trips	Page 3	Winter Wings Festival 2012	Page 5