Klamath Basin Audubon Society

The Grebe

February/March 2016

TOGETHER GREEN, ACT TODAY, SHAPE TOMORROW

President's Message

Dear KBAS Friends,

Don't you love the quiet of winter? There is 2 inches of powdery snow, here at Tingley Lake Estates. Winter wonderland.

KBAS is now looking for 2 to 3 Screeners. These members will talk to current Board Members and Chairs to see if they want to continue their commitment. It will then be announced what Board and Chair openings that are available.

Due to family commitments, I will be stepping down at the appropriate time as Madame President. I hope to be accepted as Hospitality Chair, which I believe I have more time for. Thank you, for the fun times and more to come.

On Jan.6, 2016 The Board voted to support The Conservation Director Bob Salinger of Portland's response to the Malheur Siege.

The New York Times has a good article of you'd like to read it. Hopefully this will be over by the time this Grebe is printed.

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/08/travel/angry-birders-standoff-at-Oregon-refuge-has-riled-a-passionate-group.html

OCF is creating a library of photos. If anyone in KBAS would like to contribute contact Valerie Rundquist.
(503) 552-3510.
www.oregoncf.org

Hope to see everyone at Winterwings!
Sherry Pollock
(541) 539-9001
Canadageese61@gmail.com

Winter Wings Festival Receives a 2016 Mindful Birding Award for Adopting Ethical Birding Guidelines

Klamath Basin Audubon Society is the recipient of a 2016 Mindful Birding Award from the Morrissey Foundation for its efforts to promote ethical birding guidelines and bird conservation through its Winter Wings Festival.

By strengthening participants' connections to nature, and by providing guidance on ethical birding and nature conservation, the Winter Wings Festival is serving as a model for other birding festivals and helping attendees become even stronger messengers for and supporters of conservation for birds and people.

The project has three goals: (1) increase awareness among birders of ethical birding guidelines, (2) increase the conservation contributions from America's 47 million birdwatchers, and (3) encourage a practice of mindfulness among birders.

To learn more, visit the website: www.mindfulbirding.org

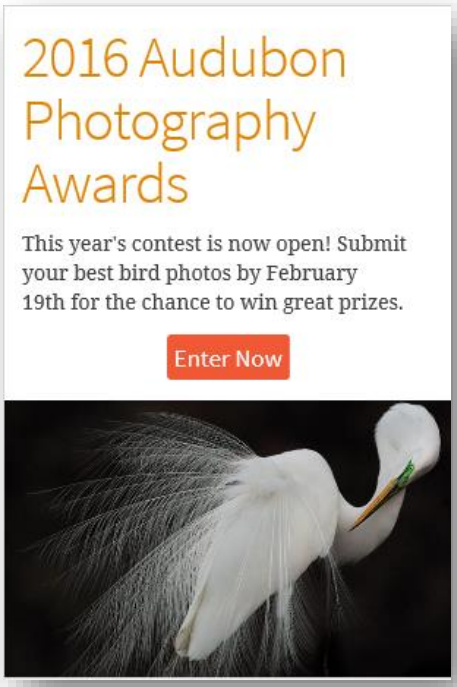
KBAS General Meetings

General meetings are the second Thursday of the Month.

THERE IS NO MEETING IN FEBRUARY DUE TO WINTER WINGS FESTIVAL. A special thank you to all who are helping to make the 2016 Festival a success!

The next general meeting will be **March 10, 6:30 p.m.** at the Coldwell Banker Holman Premier Realty at 3815 S. 6th St. Ste.110 (across from Big Lots)

The next monthly meetings will be April 14 and May 12.



See www.audubon.org for more information

Winter Wing Update

by Diana Samuels

Registration Update - Diana Samuels

As of 1/15/16, about 335 had registered which is more than last year at this time. We have just added a new Crater Lake Snowshoe trip to the itinerary so check that out for Friday, Feb. 12th. Eight field trips have openings and you can still sign up for most workshops, mini-sessions, banquets and keynotes. We are premiering the Lost Bird Film that drew so much attention on PBS to those who register for this free mini-session on Friday, Feb. 12th. Don't delay though. Go to www.WinterWingsFestival.org.

Volunteers Needed - Anne Wenner

We still need volunteers for a variety of tasks. If you have already signed up as a volunteer for this year we thank you and you need read no further. However, if you haven't yet volunteered, now is the time! We have a variety of fun and interesting volunteer opportunities, both before and during the festival. It is a good chance to meet new people and be involved with the birding community. And to thank you for volunteering, all volunteers are invited to attend the Friday evening keynote presentation by James Currie, "When Eagles Roar", for free.

The volunteer opportunities are all listed online in our registration system (http://www.winterwingsfest.org/), and you can volunteer by registering for whatever you are interested in. If you don't want to go online, or if you want more details about a particular task, feel free to phone or email one of the Volunteer Coordinators listed below and we will be happy to work with you. We urge you to volunteer now for a rewarding and interesting experience.

Suzanne Moser
suziemoser@gmail.com
541-880-4691
Virginia Bary
virginia.bary@gmail.com
530-340-3812

Here is a list of the volunteer opportunities you will find online:

- Help with the Children's Art Contest in a variety of ways
- Assist at a Workshop or Mini-session
- Help put up signage at OIT
- Work at the Registration/Welcome Desk
- Help staff the KBAS Sales Table
- Check wristbands at a Keynote Presentation
- Work at Bird Central
- Advise young birders during Birding Bingo Saturday February 13 at the Favell Museum
- Count attendees and take snapshots at the family Falconry Demonstration

Photo Contest - Anne Wenner



The Put a Bird IN It! Photo Contest is back for 2016 with support from Steve Spencer at Leo's Camera Shop. Winning images will be featured on our website,

www.WinterWingsFest.org. Images should include bird(s) that were found in the general area of the Klamath Basin and photographed February 11-14, 2016. We encourage anyone with a great bird shot – amateur or professional – to enter. Please spread the word about this fun, free activity. For more information, visit our website listed above.

Bird Bingo at the Favell Museum – Anne Wenner

Calling all young birders! Come to the Favell Museum on Saturday February 13 between 10 am and 5 pm for a fun bingo challenge. Fill out your bingo card by identifying local birds chowing down at the museum's new bird feeders, swimming in or flying down the Link River or hanging out in trees just outside the building. You and your family also get free admission to the museum where the hunt continues with birds hidden in paintings, sculptures or otherwise displayed throughout. Find a winning bingo combination of these birds and get a special prize.

Photo Frame – Diana Samuels

We need props for folks to use while taking their photo at our new social media Photo Frame. If you can loan us a funny bird hat, oversized glasses, animal puppet, etc. please contact Diana Samuels



General News

Local Audubon Bird Enthusiasts Set County Species Year Record

Congratulations to Dave Hewitt for setting a new Klamath County year record. Dave saw 259 species in 2015! The previous record was 250 species set in 2014 by Kevin Spencer.

Highlights of Dave's record-breaking year:

A Williamson's Sapsucker, Barred Owl, and a White-throated Sparrow seen on Jan. 1 started the year off right. Pine Grosbeaks, pretty rare in the county, were seen along Clover Creek Road in February. Most shorebirds showed up this year even though water was at a premium. Semipalmated Sandpiper and Red-necked Phalarope were probably among the latest shorebirds seen in August at Willow Valley Reservoir east of Langell Valley, and Pectoral Sandpiper was seen north of Stateline Road in October. It was a good year for gulls: Mew, Glaucous, Glaucous-winged, and Thayer's showed up along with the usual ones.

Owls were also well represented: in addition to the Barred seen on Jan 1, other unusual and difficult to find owls included Spotted and Long-eared. A special highlight of the year was being out with his children and watching together as a Great-gray Owl was hunting. Woodpeckers unusual or hard to find included Red-naped Sapsucker and American Three-toed Woodpecker. October brought Surf Scoters and Pacific Loon at Crescent Lake in north Klamath County. Sooty Grouse aren't uncommon in the county, finding them is another thing sometimes—one finally dropped off a hillside and walked across Nannie Creek Road to join the list. Late November produced Northern Shrike and Lapland Longspurs in the Straits Drain area. In December a Common Redpoll showed up at a private residence in Chiloquin—one of only two seen/reported.

And probably the best birds, if only because of their rarity, were two warblers. Dave found a Hooded Warbler in Moore Park in May for a probable first county record. And then in late November Dave first spotted what turned out to be a **Blackburnian Warbler** at Wood River Wetland in the riparian area. It took twenty minutes of "warbler neck" (the bird was very high and very active in the tops of the trees) before enough field marks were observed to nail the identity of this beauty. The warbler stuck around for over an hour and two other birders got to see it. The Blackburnian Warbler is a first Klamath County record.



WINTER WINGS FESTIVAL

Winter Wings Festival is Presidents' Day Weekend, February 11-14, 2016.

Field Trips

by Mary Ellen Sargent

February 20, 2016
Post Winter Wings trip

Join Rick Hardy for a post-WWF trip to find many of the outstanding species reported during WWF. More details to follow. Meet at the USFWS parking lot at 1936 California Ave. at 8 AM.

Saturday, March 26
Photography Trip

Join Jack Noller for a 1/2 day of visiting at the Lower Klamath NWR, finding interesting birds in the field to photograph, including eagles! If you have anything from a point-and-shoot to a tricked out rig, this trip is for you! And if you just want to see birds, come along! Meet at the Autotour route kiosk (Stateline Road) at 8 AM. Dress for the weather!

Mid March/Early April, 2016
Shorebird Jamboree

Join photographer Jack Noller for a 1/2 day of visiting his favorite birdy picture areas. If you have anything from a point and shoot to a tricked out photographic rig, this trip is for you! And if you just want to see birds, come along! More details later!

April/May, 2016
Skillet Handle

Join Darrel Samuels for a trip to the Skillet Handle. Trip will follow the lake looking the returning grebes and other waterfowl, plus nesting specialties of Running Y. More details to follow.

Late April, 2016
Shorebird Jamboree

Join Kevin Spencer as he leads us on a trip around the Basin to catch the migrating shorebird action. More details to follow.

Early May, 2016
Eagle Ridge

Join Molly Russell for a trip to Eagle Ridge to find migrants, including warblers and shorebirds and early nesters. More details to follow.

June, 2016
Redband Ranch at Crystal Springs

Redband Ranch at Crystal Creek. Come join our hosts, Anne & Karl Wenner at their ranch off Westside Road. This was a very popular trip in 2014, so we're bringing it back! Carpooling meeting place will be at the Lodge at Running Y. We'll be doing easy walking, looking for nesting mountain and waterbird species. There will also be an opportunity to paddle around Crystal Creek to look for birds and giant redband trout. More details to follow.

Late July, 2016
Canoe/Kayak Trip on Williamson

Join Heather Hendrixson of The Nature Conservancy on a canoe/kayak trip on the Williamson River at the delta and around the near shores of Agency Lake, especially Goose Bay. Lots of nesters (think: baby grebes on parent's backs) will be around.









For all field information

Contact: **Mary Ellen Sargent**
Field Trip Chair

541.850.3926, sargentme5@aol.com

to register, ask questions, have suggestions or can lead a field trip. **NOTE:** Please check the KBAS website for updates on additional field trip information:

www.klamathaudubon.org

Malheur Petition

While the Malheur petition seems to have resolved itself. However, just in case, here's a link to an online petition urging President Obama to end the occupation at the Malheur refuge and to arrest Ammon Bundy:

https://petitions.whitehouse.gov/petition/arrest-ammon-bundy-and-armed-occupiers-malheur-wildlife-refuge



Malheur National Wildlife Refuge is a National Wildlife Refuge located roughly 30 miles south of the city of Burns in Oregon's Harney Basin.

Upcoming Program

by Darrel Samuels

The March 10th meeting will feature a program on Patagonian birds by Brandon Breen. Patagonia is a region within Chile and Argentina that occupies the southernmost portion of South America and is one of the most scenic landscapes on earth. In his presentation Brandon will share photos and experiences from a hiking and bird watching trip in February of 2015. His talk will include glaciers, parakeets, turquoise waters, condors, buzzard-eagles, and even the secretive Chucao Tapaculo, a bird whose voice, according to Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, "contains all the world's loneliness."

Brandon is a writer and conservation biologist living in Ashland. He has worked on numerous avian research projects throughout the U.S. and abroad, focusing on such species as the California and

Andean condors, the Turkey Vulture, and the Gray-crowned Rosy-finch. He completed his BA at Bates College and his MS at the University of Minnesota.

Brandon is currently working on the Mindful Birding Project which aims to increase awareness of ethical birding guidelines as well as the conservation impacts of America's birdwatchers.



Plumbeous Rail (photo by Brandon Breen)



Chucao Tapaculo



Gray-crowned Rosy Finch

Klamath Basin Bird News Information

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



Olympic Birdfest

April 15-17, 2016



This festival will be preceded by our San Juan Islands Cruise on April 12-14, 2016; and followed by a two-day excursion to the Neah Bay area of coastal Washington on April 17-19, 2016.

Olympic Birdfest, April 15-17, 2016. Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours, live auction & raffle, gala banquet, and more. Our featured speaker: noted artist Tony Angell, "Revealing the Secret Lives of Owls". Join our festival pre-trip: a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands, April 12-14, 2016. Register separately at www.pugetsoundexpress.com/audubon. Extend your festival with our Neah Bay post-trip on April 17-19, 2016: two days exploring northwest coastal Washington. BirdFest registration at www.olympicbirdfest.org.

Wings Across the Sky

June 3-5, 2016

Montana Audubon's *Wings Across the Big Sky Festival*, co-hosted by Five Valleys Audubon Society, will be held **June 3-5, 2016** in Missoula. Festival headquarters will be located at the Holiday Inn Downtown at the Park.

Over 20 field trips to a variety of habitats, including wetlands, uplands, mountain forests, sagebrush shrub-steppe, and large rivers. Expected Species: Lewis Woodpecker, Black Tern, Long-billed Curlew, Clay-colored Sparrow, Brewer's Sparrow, Rock Wren, Canyon Wren, Bobolink, Gray Flycatcher, Sagebrush Sparrow, Sage Thrasher, Burrowing Owl, Ferruginous Hawk, and Williamson's Sapsucker. Post-festival day long field trips for serious birders is also available.

For non-birding enthusiasts we again are offering our popular Friday night bat walk with local biologists plus other walks for wildflowers and butterflies. Then there is a large art show and history tours plus shopping and more shopping…remember Montana does NOT have any sales tax. In appreciation of that, we are providing a fantastic optic and camera sale opportunity. Our Saturday morning markets for local produce and crafts draws hundreds of tourists.

Saturday night keynote Speaker--Dr. Erick Greene, Division of Biological Sciences, University of Montana, an engaging speaker who studies threat communication shared between bird species as well as other genera, and contaminant levels in our local Osprey population.

Registration starts in March at http://mtaudubon.org/birding/montana-bird-festival/

Contacts are:
Cathie Erickson,
Montana Audubon,
cerickson@mtaudubon.org,
(406) 443-3949 or
Rose Leach,
Five Valleys Audubon,
rleach-2@bresnan.net,
(406)-721-0779

wings MONTANA AUDUBON across the big sky

Klamath Basin Audubon Society Officers and Board Members

President	Sherry Pollock	541.539.9001	canadageese61@gmail.com
Vice-President	Darrel Samuels	541.850.5832	dsamuels@charter.net
Secretary	Beth Philips	530.908.3412	pidgeco@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sherry Lindley	541.205.5269	shadylin@aol.com
Board	Mary Ellen Sargent	541.850.3926	sargentme5@aol.com
Board	Jherime Kellermann	541.851.5156	jherime.kellermann@oit.edu
Board	Virginia Bary	530.398.4718	virginia.bary@gmail.com
Board	Tom Essex	541.273.7442	ospreytom@charter.net
Board	Molly Russell	541.884.3868	russellX1@msn.com

Klamath Basin Audubon Society Committee Chairs

Conservation	Marshal Moser	541.880.4269	marshalmoser@gmail.com
Education	OPEN		
Field Trips	Mary Ellen Sargent	541.850.3926	sargentme5@aol.com
Grebe Editor	Shirley Alley	541.273.2957	s.alley@charter.net
Historian	Ralph Opp	541.882.8488	kfopps@q.com
Hospitality	OPEN		
Membership	OPEN		
Programs	Darrel Samuels	541.850.5832	dsamuels@charter.net
Publicity	Virginia Bary	530.398.4718	virginia.bary@gmail.com
Grant Review	Jim Rooks	541.851.0209	runningyrooks@charter.net
Winter Wings	Diana Samuels Anne Wenner	541.850.5832 541.882.1219	dsamuels@charter.net kcwenner@aol.com

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.

The Board of Directors meets 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Chamber of Commerce offices, 205 Riverside, Klamath Falls. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

For **address changes,** please contact both National Audubon Society and KBAS, Attn. Sherry Pollock, 11800 Tingley Lane #31, Klamath Falls, OR 97603

Comments and information **to The Grebe Editor** are welcomed and encouraged. Send to Grebe Editor, 6212 Osprey Lane Klamath Falls, OR. 97601 or s.alley@charter.net

Check our website:

www.klamathaudubon.org

KBAS e-mail address:

klamathauduboninfo@gmail.com

LOCAL MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

Date _____

□ Individual: $20

□ Student and Senior (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_____

Email _____

Note: You will receive The Grebe at this email address

□ I do not have an email address. Please mail my copy

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

February/March 2016

Klamath Basin
Audubon Society
P. O. 354
Klamath Falls, OR 97601

Or Current Occupant

KBAS general meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month except June, July, and August. There is no meeting in February due to the Winter Wings Festival at OIT. The next meeting will be **March** 10. See page 2 for more details.

Website: www.klamathaudubon.org

KBAS e-mail address: klamathauduboninfo@gmail.com

