

The Grebe

Klamath Basin Audubon Society

June/July 2011

KBAS Planning Meeting

An important annual planning meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, June 25. Everyone is not only invited but strongly encouraged to attend and bring their field trip, speaker, and budget ideas!

This session creates a vision of concrete ideas and plans that serve to guide the Committee Chairs for the coming year. It is your opportunity to contribute to that vision and help shape KBAS in a manner that you would like to see happen.

Co-Presidents Dave Potter and Kathy McKeehan have expanded the two hour planning session [field trips and speakers] to include a two hour Board Meeting at the end.

The Board Meeting will include:

- Bylaws revisions/approval
- Budget planning/approval

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Location: County Meeting Room at 4th and Pine Streets, Klamath Falls. [Where General Meetings are held]

Agenda:

- 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. bird the Link River Trail, Dave leading]
- 9 a.m. Welcome to Meeting
- 9:10-9:55 a.m. Flip chart possible field trips; set priorities
- 9:55-10:40 a.m. Flip chart possible program speakers; set priorities
- 10:40-11:40 Light refreshments. Open Board Meeting: Work through Bylaw revisions from lawyer's review. Modify as necessary. Vote.
- 11:40-12:40 Work through draft budget. Change as necessary. Vote.
- 12:40-1 p.m. Miscellaneous Items. Eat sack lunch if desired.
- 1 pm Adjourn Board Meeting.



Question or comments? Send to Dave Potter and/or Kathy McKeehan.

Also if you are unable to attend, please send your ideas for consideration. [emails and phone numbers on Page 7].



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

Fish and Wildlife Service Office is located at 1935 California Ave., off the on-ramp to HWY 97 South from Nevada/Oregon Ave.

As Kathy McKeegan and I lead KBAS, the big work load Darrel Samuels handled is increasingly [painfully] apparent. His years of KBAS Presidency brought great growth and effectiveness. Huzzah! Mega Kudos! Also "Super Hero" thanks to outgoing workers Treasurer Paul Alley, Board Member Dave Hewitt and Committee Chairs Tom Essex and Mary Ellen Sargent. And a heartfelt "Thank You" to all existing and new leaders giving of their time.

Kathy and my KBAS vision include increasing Committee strength and authority. Committees are weak when they rely on only one person - which is the case with most KBAS committees. Most all the Committee Chairs could use one or two folks to join in doing KBAS' good work. Kathy and I are sure hoping each KBASer will join one of our committees.

And don't forget... We need your field trip and program ideas at the June 25 Planning and Board Meeting: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the County Meeting Room.
Dave Potter, Co-President



My interest in birds started a young age, literally at my mother's knee. She was an avid birder. Walks with her were slow, just the right pace for a very young child. One month each summer our family went on a vacation; camping, canoeing, exploring the wilderness, and seeing all points of USA and Canada. Birds were always a part of our lives.

My husband (Jim) and family (son and daughter) moved to Klamath Falls in 1979. Jim's work was with the U.S. Forest Service on the Klamath and Modoc National Forests. This got us in touch with lots of birding areas and friends. Now I get to share the birds with my grandchildren.

I worked for 25 years as a school bus driver with special education, long trips, and my Old Fort route. (The students would help me spot the first Bluebird of the season; this meant school was soon to be out.)

During my adult life, I have been leader or co leader of church council for 10 years, and many other organizations. I was the musical director of Sweet Adeline's for 5 years.

Since retirement I have been on stage at the Ross Ragland in musicals, worked the Children's Theater Camps, and did prop's for White Christmas. I am currently Vice president for Klamath Choral and sing in the group when time permits.

It has been my experience that 2 leaders can work together, each leading from their strength. I have worked with Dave before and believe that we can move forward on the foundation that Darrell set. With everyone working towards this goal, it is a win - win situation. Let keep Darrell's dream of a viable KBAS alive!
Kathy McKeegan, Co-President



In Memoriam

David William Menke

December 25, 1946 - April 28, 2011

Huge shoes to fill . . .

Field Trips Schedule . . . Kevin Spencer, Chair

Friday – Sunday, June 10, 11, 12th, 2011: Klamath Marsh to Summer Lake Weekend: This two-night trip will start with a late Friday afternoon visit to Klamath Marsh where Yellow Rails can be heard. After staying at the Refuge's bunkhouse, and early a.m. refuge birding, it will be off to Fort Rock, Paulina Marsh, Christmas Valley, and by late p.m., Summer Lake. After a night's stay (Summer Lake Lodge room reservations: 541-943-3993, or Summer Lake campground), there'll be an a.m. tour of Summer Lake and Winter Rim, before heading home. Contact Kevin Spencer if you plan to go or need more information at rriparia@charter.net or 541-884-5739.



Saturday, August 13, 2011, 11:30 a.m. Annual Picnic: Hosts will be Jean and Al Van Hulzen, at their Rocky Point home. See Page 1.

Friday-Sunday, August 19, 20, 21, 2011 to Abert Lake and Hart Mountain: A weekend trip to Lake County to observe the impressive numbers at Lake Abert during fall migration. Camping at Goose Lake State Park, at New Pine Creek, South of Lakeview, with birding there Saturday a.m. On to Lake Abert, then during Saturday afternoon, travel to Hart Mountain. and camp at base of mountain Saturday night. Birding

on Hart Mountain Sunday a.m. and returning Sunday afternoon. Contact Kevin Spencer if interested 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.



Klamath Bird Observatory's Summer 2011 Community Events Calendar . . . by Liz Williams

Listed below are just a few of the many exciting events that KBO has planned. You can peruse the remainder including family friendly trips and camps by visiting their website: www.KlamathBird.org and click on "Community Programs." For more information, email KBO@KlamathBird.org or call 541-201-0866.

Saturday, August 6th: KBO Bird Walk to Howard Prairie and Hyatt Lakes: Join Frank Lospalluto for a tour of the Howard Prairie/Hyatt Lakes area. We will start around Howard Prairie, looking for Sandhill Crane, Western Meadowlark, Western Bluebird, and Lark and Vesper Sparrow. Around Howard Prairie and Hyatt Lakes, we will see shorebirds and waterfowl like Northern Pintail and Green-winged Teal. Plan to bring a lunch—we'll eat by the lake and return to Ashland in the early afternoon. Meet at 8:00 am at the Northwest Nature Shop in Ashland. Limited to 15 participants. To register, call 541-482-3241.

Saturday, September 10th: Public Banding Demonstration: Travel with us to Upper Klamath Lake to visit one of KBO's long-term ecological monitoring and bird banding stations. At the Seven Mile Guard Station on the Fremont-Winema National Forest, we will visit a KBO banding station, where we will have the

chance to view many fall migrant songbirds up-close. We will also learn about how bird banding contributes to a better understanding of bird populations and informs on-the-ground conservation. Meet at 8:00 am at Wild Birds Unlimited in Medford. Limited to 15 participants. Cost: \$25 non-members, \$15 KBO members. Leader: KBO Staff. To register, call 541-770-1104.

Saturday, September 17th: KBO's 4th annual Wings and Wine Fundraising Gala: This year's celebration will be held on September 17th at Historic Hanley Farm in Central Point, Oregon, from 6—10 pm. Our 4th annual *Wings and Wine* Gala will again feature live music, delicious food, local wine, and a "Not So Silent" auction. We will also be showcasing winners of the 2nd annual *Best of the Bioregion* wine competition. Tickets are \$45 and are available by calling 541-201-0866.

If You Are Into Shorebirds, Then . . .

If you are into shorebirds, then you will love a trip to Northwestern Australia. At Roebuck Bay, one can observe 25% of the world's shorebird species at the right time of year. Roebuck Bay is one of the top five staging areas for shorebird migrations, southward in September and northward in March. One of my favorite species is the Terek Sandpiper, a small member of the *Tringa* family, which includes Solitary Sandpiper and the Yellowlegs. Tereks have short, brilliant yellow legs and a disproportionately long upturned bill. Other *Tringa* species can be seen too, such as Common Greenshank, Common Redshank, Wood Sandpiper and Marsh Sandpiper.

The Common Greenshank is similar in form, behavior and habitat requirements as the Greater Yellowlegs. Analogously the Common Sandpiper, an *Actitis* species, is very much like our Spotted Sandpiper.

One of the highlights of the shorebird migration this time of year is the arrival of little curlews. One day there are none, the next thousands. They can be found on beaches, in marshes, on mudflats, and in athletic fields. These birds will be around for a few weeks, and as suddenly as they arrived, they suddenly disappear. It is not absolutely certain where the little curlews go, but experts feel the bulk of them disappear into the Barkly Tablelands, a vast area south of the Gulf of Carpentaria on the Queensland/Northern Territory border. This remote area is largely inaccessible during the upcoming wet season, thus is not well studied during this time of year.

There are several more sandpiper and plover species that visit the area such as Broad-billed Sandpiper, Red-necked and Long-toed Stints, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Great Knot, Asian Dowitcher, Red Knot, Ruff, Curlew Sandpiper, Red Shank, greater and lesser sand plovers, Oriental Plover, Red Kneed, Black-fronted and Red-capped Dotterels and Masked Lapwing, Bar-tailed and Back-tailed Godwits and who knows what else. There are several possible vagrant species, predominantly from North America. And while we are at it, let's not forget the 15-20 raptor species . . . that are possible on the nearby Roebuck Plains.

This area is also a destination for Gray Wagtails from time to time, Rosy Starling, Blue and White Flycatcher as well as a vast array of honeyeaters and mangrove species in the nearby mangroves.

Southwest of Broome a couple of hundred miles is an area called 80 mile beach. Shorebird researchers from around the planet go there in September/October to canon net shorebirds for banding and are happy to have volunteers.

A couple of years ago 80,000 Oriental Pratincoles were counted there. Offshore, Brown Boobies, Lesser Frigatebird, Sooty and Bridled Terns, Common Noddies and lots of other pelagics can be found.

Lou Leidwinger
Karratha, Western Australia

Note: Doesn't this just make you want to jump on the next plane? Lou receives his copy of *The Grebe* via email with each publication.

Lou is from Klamath Falls. He was founding President of KBAS [1981] and again President and Conservation Chair of KBAS in 1989. He grew up in Pennsylvania and has been living and working in the Outback of Australia as an audiologist for 13 years. However, he also notes that he "misses the Basin tremendously and may retire here! We hope so, Lou.



Conservation . . . *Dave Potter*

Plastic bags to fish refuges to bat epidemics; conservation efforts are just like history: Its just one darn thing after another.

State legislators are nearing finish with action still cooking on extending our bottle bill, bringing Oregon in line with other states by establishing marine sanctuaries [fish refuges], banning plastic bags, changing land use controls, predator killing and more. We should stay informed [various web sites] and submit our views.

Legislators want to hear from us.

Locally we have opportunities like establishing more walking trails, better bicycle lanes on streets, protecting green space, increasing solar and geothermal energy ... And someday bringing the Link River Trail into public control. Work days for Wing Watchers and Friends of Moore Park are satisfying sweat-and-blisters conservation.

Federally there are always e mails to do. Public land managers need

our inputs. The on-rushing deadly bat epidemic should concern all of us since dead bat colonies mean significant adverse effects on agriculture. Attend town hall meetings when our Congress members are here and speak with them. Contact the Feds and State by email when you see improvements needed. Don't take no, or no response, as a final answer.

Conservation work is certainly one darn thing after another. But critically necessary.

KBAS Grant Assists Friends of Moore Park . . . *Darrel Samuels*

The Friends of Moore Park [FOMP] is a fellow non-profit dedicated to the improvement and support of Moore Park and is the most recent recipient of a KBAS grant. FOMP has partnered with the City of Klamath Falls to maintain and extend a trail network for hiking, biking, and other recreational activities. Over the past year FOMP has played a significant role in gathering GPS data on existing trails, mapping the existing trail network, identifying trails to be removed, and identifying new trails to be constructed.

FOMP has had the active support of the City of Klamath Falls, the U.S. Forest Service, the Oregon Department of Forestry, the Linkville Loppers and the local mountain bikers group in the construction of this trail. The City has provided technical expertise and tools and has helped to organize volunteer labor. Both the U.S. Forest Service and the Oregon Department of Forestry have provided trained workers to help with trail construction. Members of the Linkville Loppers and the local mountain bikers group have helped in trail construction and have played a key role in getting the word out about the trail. These existing partners are expected to continue to contribute with the trail construction efforts moving forward.

At April and May meetings, the KBAS board considered a grant application FOMP submitted to aid them and the City in the construction of the trail network. FOMP

had requested \$2,000 to help purchase a motorized wheelbarrow that would make construction far more efficient. The KBAS board felt that this project should be supported and granted FOMP \$2,000. The City will purchase the motorized wheelbarrow and affix an appropriate KBAS logo to it.



KBAS Vice-President Darrel Samuels presents a check to Dennis Taugher, President of Friends of Moore Park and John Bellon, City Parks Maintenance Director [right to left].



Membership

A big thank you to Kathy Essex for all the work she does keeping the membership current and organized. She is the Membership chair but that does not mean she is the one who brings in the members.

That is up to all of us in Audubon!

When you are on a birding outing, or meet someone of like mind, share with them about Audubon and our programs. Events like Third Thursday, IBMD and WWF are other times that we have to share of ourselves. If they are interested, give them a membership form.

Everyone is on the Membership committee! With growth, we can realize the vision of KBAS mission statement. .

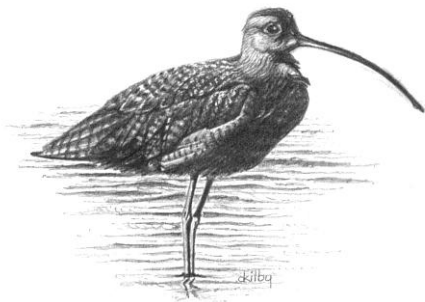
Education

Ellen Minichiello and Beth Zemke will be co leading the education committee this year.

There are lots of ideas flying around. One idea is to start groups (not that all will happen) for: preschool children, fledgling (1st -3rd grades), Audubon Nature Explorers (4th – 6th grades), beginning birders, and an Assisted Living Senior group. We also welcome input for educational and fun activities for WWF and IMBD. Remember, these are just brainstorming ideas. If you find one you are interested in helping, contact:

Ellen Minichiello 774-521-5468,

Beth Zemke 714-287-6988, or Kathy McKeehan 541-281-1038



Third Thursday Participants Needed

You can make a big difference to KBAS with very little time involved! Help support our Third Thursday participation by taking a shift or two during July, August, or September. It's easy, you get to meet great people and you are spreading the word about KBAS and the Winter Wings Festival. We've had people join KBAS because they have heard about it on Third Thursday! For more information or to sign up, contact Bob Kinkead at 882-4910 or rkinkead@fireserve.net



Electronic version of *The Grebe* available!

Klamath Basin Audubon Society offers an electronic pdf version of *The Grebe* which will be sent to you each issue via email. Viewing your subscription digitally helps save paper, keeps printing/ mailing costs down and you will receive it sooner! As you can see, *The Grebe* is much more colorful in digital format. If you would like to regularly receive it digitally, send a note and your email address to *The Grebe* Editor at Mchristian1@charter.net Several have opted for this plan already.

All sketches by Daniel Kilby

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@firereserve.net
	*Ken Johnston	883-7671	klijstn@msn.com
	*Sherry Perry	882-1980	sherryperryphd@msn.com

Klamath Basin Audubon Society Committee Chairs

Conservation	Dave Potter	850-3808	kpottermom@yahoo.com
	Ralph Opp	882-8488	kfopps@q.com
Education	Ellen Minichiello [774]	521-5468	natureisit@aol.com
	Beth Zemke [714]	287-6988	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
	Diana Samuels	850-5832	dsamuels@charter.net
Winter Wings	Anne Wenner	882-1219	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.
- 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

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 _____

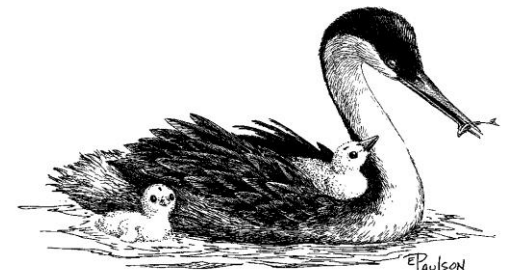
Klamath Basin Audubon Society - **Chapter Code C1ZT600Z**

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



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Klamath Basin Audubon Society
P.O. Box 354
Klamath Falls OR 97601
June/July 2011

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

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- **Please Note:** The renewal date printed on each *Grebe* address label [see above] indicates the month/year your KBAS membership expires; you will need to renew on time to continue receiving the Grebe.
- **KBAS Membership:** *The Grebe* is currently sent to members of National Audubon as well as local KBAS members. You are encouraged to join both organizations. We receive very little rebate from National Audubon and therefore your local dues helps offset the cost of printing and mailing *The Grebe* as well as helping to support local activities. See page 7.
- **2011/2012 Officers and Committee Chair:** Congratulations to all. See Page 7 for a complete listing.
- **Klamath Basin Birding News [KBBN] Reminder:** Klamath Basin Bird News is an informal email network (a mailing list) of nearly 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 dhewitt73@gmail.com

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