



**Klamath Basin
Audubon Society**

The Grebe

*August/September
2019*

TOGETHER GREEN, ACT TODAY,
SHAPE TOMORROW

President's Message

By Darrel Samuels

Happy New Year! I know that sounds a bit odd, but I think of this time of year as the beginning of a new year for KBAS. August kicks off the year with two opportunities for all to share their love of birding and to strengthen our chapter.

Mark your calendars for August 3 to attend the annual KBAS potluck picnic hosted by Jean and Al Van Hulzen at their beautiful and very birdy home and yard in Rocky Point. It's always a treat to visit with new and old friends and enjoy a great picnic while surrounded by a wide variety of winged visitors. Don't miss it!

The second kickoff to a new year is the annual Planning Meeting on Tuesday, August 6 where we brainstorm the goals, programs, field trips, etc.,

that guide us throughout the year. We'll gather at the FNR meeting room from 8:30 to 1:30 (lunch included). If you can attend, please RSVP. If you can't attend, please send me your ideas for speakers, field trips, activities, etc. that we can consider in our planning.

September marks the beginning of our monthly program meetings, an important way for us to interface with the community and welcome new members. Beth Phillips has done an outstanding job lining up speakers for the year that not only further our knowledge, but also attract the community at large. Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, September 8 for our first program.

Lastly, I think it's also a good time to remind

ourselves of the good we do throughout the year. We strive to be a presence at many community events (Link River Festival, World Migratory Bird Day, Third Thursdays, etc.), providing information and activities to engage young and old. Due to the financial success of the Winter Wings Festival we are able to support the community through our two grants programs. For example, this year we awarded grants to the Duck Hospital at the Refuge for the treatment of avian botulism and to the

Klamath Bird Observatory for the monitoring of migrant birds in the Klamath Basin. Each year we provide about 15 local elementary teachers with \$300-400 each to fund science and nature education and field trips for their students. We recently received wonderful thank you notes from some of the teachers and students we have helped this year as well as a public thank you in the Herald and News. Welcome to a new year!

LETTERS OF THANKS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Thank you for supporting education

I would like to thank and everyone at the Klamath Basin Audubon Society for supporting youth. Teachers need more time to properly teach the sciences and, without your grants, many teachers would not have the ability to take students to see things with their own eyes.

With my classroom's grant money, we were able to go to Moore Park and learn about macro-invertebrates, the process it takes for salmon to spawn and paddle around in kayaks. The students were able to pull snails, leeches, and tiny little creatures from the lake and classify them using a dichotomous key.

It was a great experience for everyone. Thank you again for your generosity.

Rebecca Morehouse

Thank
You
Audubon
Society

Thank you for paying for our feild trip. I really liked when we dissected fish. Thank you very mach I really liked Shoalwater Bay. Sincerely,
Phoebe



New Board Member: BJ Matzen

I am a product of Eastern Oregon (EO) having grown up on a cow-calf ranch in Izee, a community located some 50 miles southwest of John Day that is named after my great granddad's brand. I graduated from Oregon State with BS degrees in both Fish and Game and in Animal Science.

My law degree is from Willamette and my practice concentrated in natural resource and municipal law in various EO towns for some 45 years (approximately 35 in Klamath Falls(KF)). During that time I was full time city attorney for 11 years combined in KF and The Dalles. I also spent 17 years part time as an arbitrator for the Klamath County Circuit Court and taught law classes part time for 6 years at OIT.

I am a charter member of KBAS which we formed to continue the Bald Eagle Conference (now Winter Wings Festival) and I continue to help with it. I have been President of KBAS at various times for some 6 years total and on the Board even longer. In the mid-80's I put together Klamath WingWatchers Inc. and served as it's President for many years. Recently I spent 6 years on the Board of Klamath Bird Observatory and I am now a member of the Downtown Kiwanis.

Most importantly, I am 47 years married to Sue with 2 boys and 3 great grandkids.

KBAS Planning Meeting

Our annual KBAS Planning Meeting will be held Tuesday, August 6 in the Fisher-Nicholson meeting room at 403 Main St. (where we have general meetings). We'll start at 8:30 and end at 1:30. Lunch, drinks and some morning treats will be provided. The purpose of the meeting is to generate ideas and plans for the coming KBAS year. Topics to be discussed: field trips, programs, educational activities and events, Winter Wings, the budget, and more. If you can attend, please RSVP Darrel so we know how many to plan for. Can't attend, but have ideas to share? Contact Darrel or any of the Board and Committee Chairs with your input.

ANNUAL KBAS SUMMER PICNIC

Please join us for our annual Klamath Basin Audubon Society picnic! The Van Hulzens have once again graciously offered to share their beautiful yard in Rocky Point for our annual picnic, which will feature their famous tri-tip. Don't miss this great day of birding and camaraderie. Members and guests are invited.

Date: August 3rd - Saturday

Time: 11:30 am - Arrive for some birding and Al Van Hulzen's shrimp appetizer, while spending time visiting with members and guests. The tri-tip hits the grill around 12:30 pm, and the feast will follow. The afternoon allows plenty of time to relax and enjoy the spectacular surroundings.

What to bring: Last name...A-I brings salad, J-O brings dessert and P-Z brings entree. Also, please bring your own beverages and eating service.

General directions: From Hwy 140 westbound...just past the mp 44 marker, turn north on Westside Road and drive approximately 1/2 mile, then left at the mailboxes - 24850 Westside Road, Rocky Point.

RSVP: Please make sure that you've contacted Jean at (541) 810-2110, so that she will know how many to expect.

We look forward to seeing you there!



The Winter Wings Team Has Openings!

Diana Samuels

The festival key volunteer team of about 20 or more plans and organizes the many activities taking place over the festival weekend. We have openings in **registration, t-shirt design, hospitality, and Audubon sales table**. If you are self-motivated, like working with others, have computer skills, and want the 2020 Festival to be a successful fundraising event for the Klamath Basin Audubon Society, please consider volunteering. If selected, you will be part of the team that works with Anne Wenner and Diana Samuels attending 3 key volunteer meetings and working independently between the meetings. We have lots of procedures in place, so you would not be starting from scratch. You will join a tremendous group of volunteers years that get satisfaction from putting on a great festival. Our first organization meeting is tentatively planned for late August so there's time for you to get in on the ground floor. Contact Diana Samuels via email at dsamuels@charter.net for a detailed list of openings and skills needed or to set up a meeting to get more information.

WINTER WINGS KEYNOTE SPEAKER ANNOUNCED

We are excited to announce that Rosemary Mosco will be our Saturday night keynoter at the 2020 Winter Wings Festival. Rosemary Mosco is a nature cartoonist and writer. She makes comics and educational charts for her site Bird And Moon, writes articles for Audubon, and creates books for kids, including Solar System: Our Place In Space and the New York Times best-selling Atlas Obscura Explorer's Guide for the World's Most Adventurous Kid. Her comics were the subject of an award-winning museum exhibit at Cornell's Museum of the Earth. The title of Rosemary's keynote talk is: "Comics for the Birds: Blending Bird Art, Humor, and Conservation." In addition, Rosemary will also be co-leading a birding field trip, teaching a Sip and Sketch workshop for adults, and offering a cartoon sketching class for children. Most recently, she keynoted at the Great Salt Lake Birding Festival to rave reviews. She will be traveling here from Boston MA.



Feeling small
and insignificant?

Meet the Northern
Pygmy-Owl. It's just
6-7 inches long.



But it sometimes
catches prey more than
twice its size!



It's a brave little
creature that...

Whoa, go easy there, buddy!



Oh

Oh no



I am a turkey vulture.



Yes indeed.



My head is bare to prevent rotting flesh from adhering to it.



To keep cool, I poop on my legs and feet.



My main defense is



projectile vomiting.



I am so awesome.



American Kestrel Banding with Cy Phillips and Matt Stuber By Molly Russell

On June 14th, Beth Phillips, Linda Stastny and I met Cy and Matt to observe them banding baby kestrels that were still in their nests. We were not sure what we were in for but it was a very rewarding and impressive experience for all of us. Cy has been researching American Kestrels since receiving a grant from KBAS in 2011 to build and place approximately 50 boxes around Malin and Tulelake. He built the boxes, put them up on trees and hay barns and waited for the kestrels to come and come they did. American Kestrels have been declining in North America and through Cy's work, there is hope of increasing their numbers in this area.

Our first box was on the side of a hay barn outside Malin. It had 5 chicks about 2 weeks old. Matt climbed up to the box and brought down 2 at a time to examine. He gave one to me and one to Linda after showing us how to hold them in our hand. They were quite passive to our surprise and very cooperative with Matt as he documented each one as to age, sex and measurement. He placed a band on one leg and then pulled some of the feathers to get a DNA sample for future identification. They didn't like the pulling of the feathers but still stayed in our hands throughout the process. Then it was Beth's turn and we all helped with others throughout the morning.

We stopped at several other boxes that contained

nestlings of different ages from about a week old that were still downy chicks to a box that two had already fledged and two were waiting to leave. As Matt opened the older nest, one flew out and landed on the ground. He was unhurt and we had a bit of a time catching him. They were a bit harder to handle as they were in full colors and Mom was watching us closely from a roof nearby but we managed to get them documented and banded.

Matt has his banding license for Oregon and Chris Venum had come a couple of weeks earlier to band birds in the California nests. They are a great help and we learned a lot. After all have fledged, Cy will come back in Feb or March to clean out the boxes and then start monitoring them to see which ones have families. He will count the eggs, document when they hatch and then come back to get them banded before they fledge.

We all had fun seeing the baby birds and helping them with their journey. The bands are very small so you probably won't be able to see them but know that these birds are out there and raising more families due to the great work of Cy, Chris and Matt. If you would like to be a part of it, contact Cy at raptorcounter@gmail.com. I know he would appreciate any help you can give and I also know that you will totally enjoy it as we did!



UPCOMING PROGRAMS



September 10th, 2019

Jaime Stephens, Klamath Bird Observatory (KBO) Science Director, will be presenting at the September 10th KBAS meeting. The presentation will include an overview of KBO's long-term monitoring and applied ecology research. It will focus on current projects occurring in the Klamath Basin within the context of broader bird conservation. An overview of long-term monitoring will include KBO's bird banding program, monitoring in the National Parks, and a new long-term monitoring program initiated this spring in shrub-steppe habitats. The presentation will also highlight species-specific studies examining Vesper Sparrow, Black-backed Woodpecker, Common Nighthawk, and Hermit Warbler. The Hermit Warbler research is a partnership with Oregon State University which aims to better understand migratory connectivity for this species, to elucidate potential causal factors in population trends and inform conservation actions. The Klamath Basin was one of nine study sites where Hermit Warblers were tagged with geolocators in spring of 2019. This project aligns closely with the KBO-led *Western Warblers Initiative*, which seeks to apply the latest technology (Motus) in expanding our knowledge of migratory movements and connectivity for warblers; research will begin on Hermit, Wilson's, and Black-throated Gray warblers in spring of 2020. The presentation will include time for questions and discussion about these projects and broader bird conservation initiatives.

Jaime Stephens, MS; SCIENCE DIRECTOR

As Science Director, Jaime oversees KBO's long-term monitoring and applied ecological research programs. She works closely with staff to design, implement, and deliver conservation relevant science. Jaime collaborates with a diverse suite of partners to inform resource management strategies and conservation actions that improve outcomes for birds and ecosystems.

Personally, her recent work has focused on oak woodland restoration in the Klamath Siskiyou Bioregion and across the Pacific Northwest. At the local level she contributes to an interdisciplinary team to guide on-the-ground actions and evaluate short- and long-term ecological change, a partnership which was awarded the USDI Partners in Conservation Award. She recently co-authored a business plan to revitalize the prairie-oak habitats across the Pacific Northwest. Jaime is also involved with a number of studies focused on timber harvest, fuel reduction and wildfire, riparian and wetland restoration, and full life cycle research for species of concern.

Jaime has twenty years of experience working in ecosystems of the Pacific Northwest. She earned her BS in Zoology and Conservation Biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She joined KBO in spring of 2002 as a Master's student at Southern Oregon University, where she completed a thesis comparing the effects of various timber harvest prescriptions on forest interior songbirds. She is an active member and past Chair of the Partners in Flight Western Working Group.

October 8th, 2019



On October 8th our speaker will be **Mary Coolidge from Portland Audubon**. She will bring us up to date on the current numbers of condors and how well they are doing. It is hoped that some of them make it to Oregon in the future. She will also speak about lead bullets and the harm they do to birds.

Mary Coolidge, BirdSafe & Lead-free Campaign Coordinator

Mary started at Portland Audubon's Assistant Conservation Director from 2008-2012 before transitioning to the BirdSafe Portland Campaign Coordinator. She grew up hiking, camping and

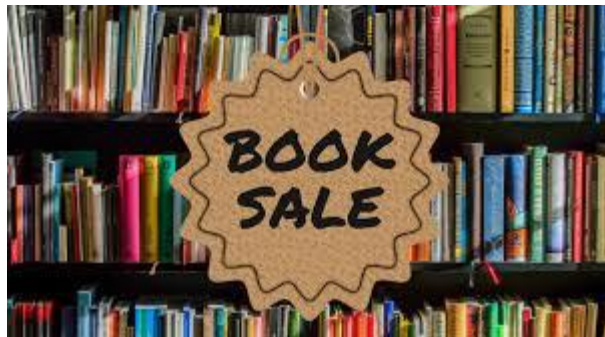
backpacking all over the West, where she developed a deep love of the natural world and ecological communities. She received a bachelor's degree in biology from Lewis & Clark College in 1997 and spent a decade studying the biology of a wide array of bird species in both urban and rural environments.

Mary is dedicated to improving efforts to make urban environments more hospitable to wildlife and helping connect people to nature and place. She splits her time between Center for Diversity & the Environment, the Oregon Zoo's California Condor breeding facility, and Portland Audubon. She spends her free time beekeeping, birdwatching, horseback riding, mushroom hunting and occasionally escaping to a meandering river to fly fish.

KBAS Book Sales

Mary Ellen Sargent

Even though it's summer, don't forget the Klamath Basin Audubon when cleaning out books. Contact any of the Board members if you have a lot of nature related books to donate. Or, bring your collection to the first meeting of the new season in September. Nature related DVDs or other related items are also welcome!



Poetry of Birds

At the Bird Feeder

Emily Strauss

Hey, she's coming, get ready—

Ha, ha we're first,
we're the biggest and so
noisy, we gobble fast
we eat everything!

Wait, I'm the squirrel
here, move over
I'll sit and take my time
relax and eat peanuts
first

Watch out!—
hee, hee, false alarm
let us get in here,
we're small but
we love sunflower seeds
best, you take the rest

It's 8:00 and nearly gone,
too bad, maybe she'll
come back.
We'll just wait over here.

Emily Strauss has an M.A. in English, but is self-taught in poetry, which she has written since college. Over 450 of her poems appear in a wide variety of online venues and in anthologies, in the U.S. and abroad.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Myki Spindle

KBAS currently has 56 local chapter memberships - 33 of these are individual memberships and 23 are family memberships. We currently have 91 National Audubon memberships assigned to our local chapter - 84 of these were individual memberships and 7 were family memberships. The total number of memberships based upon this data is - 147. (Note: KBAS members who hold both a local KBAS and a National Audubon membership are reflected only in the KBAS numbers shown above, to avoid overstating total membership figures. There are fourteen of these.

To encourage increased membership, we invite each of you to ask family and friends to join us at any of our monthly meetings or scheduled activities.

We look forward to seeing you at our first General meeting after the summer break on Tuesday, September 10th.

Thank you to our New and Renewing KBAS Members!

<u>New Members</u>		
Emily, Aaron & Geneva Merickel		
Jennifer Wise & John Seidner		



Klamath Basin Audubon Society Officers and Board Members 2019-2020		
President	Darrel Samuels	
Vice-President	Tom Essex	
Secretary	vacant	
Treasurer	Molly Russell	
Board	BJ Matzen	
Board	Ron Larson	
Board	Heidi Anderson	
Board	Rick Hardy	
Board	Beth Phillips	
Board	Kevin Spencer	
Committee Chairs		
Conservation	Marshal Moser	
Education	Jamie Blankenship, Sabrena Pitcher	
Field Trips	Gary Vequist	
Grebe Editor	Emily Strauss	
Hospitality	vacant	
Membership	Myki Spindle	
Programs	Beth Phillips	
Publicity	Mary Kelley	
Grant Review	Jim Rooks	
Winter Wings	Diana Samuels Anne Wenner	
Web Master	Debra Davis	
Used Book Sales	vacant	

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

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

August- September 2019

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

Meeting Schedule

Board Meetings

Where: Chamber of Commerce
205 Riverside Dr. Ste. A

When: First Wednesday of the Month

Time: 3 pm - 5 p.m.

General Meetings

Where: Fisher Nicholson Realty
Office, 403 Main St.

When: 2nd Tuesday of the Month

Time 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

The Grebe is posted bi-monthly on the website
WWW.KLAMATHAUDUBON.ORG

KBAS general meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month except February, June, July, and August.

Website: www.klamathaudubon.org
KBAS e-mail address: klamathauduboninfo@gmail.com
KBAS phone number: 877-541-2473