

# The Chat

Number 394  
February, 2013

A voice for education and conservation in the natural world

Rogue Valley Audubon Society

[www.roguevalleyaudubon.org](http://www.roguevalleyaudubon.org)

*Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month*



## CHAPTER PROGRAM MEETING

TUESDAY, FEB. 26 - 7:00 PM

Featuring Stewart Janes and his  
presentation on '*BIRDS OF THE  
HIGH SEAS*'

For birders with strong stomachs, pelagic birding can offer exciting rewards. A great many of the birds here are supreme flyers. All are great swimmers. You never know what you might find once you cross the bar and head for deep water. You might find a Scripp's Murrelet from Baja or a Hawaiian Petrel from Kauai or something even more unusual. Or, you might find miles of open water and little more. You never know. It's a big ocean. Come and learn about the natural history of the birds beyond the horizon off the Oregon Coast and elsewhere in the Pacific. Stewart will also discuss conservation efforts to save many of the declining and threatened species as well as the recent taxonomic revisions that have been proposed.



Photo by Stewart Janes

Stewart Janes is a biology professor at Southern Oregon University. He is an ornithologist that studies both birds of prey and the secrets of bird song among our breeding warblers. He enjoys nothing more than hopping on a boat and heading out on the high seas whether off the Oregon Coast or elsewhere.

Chapter meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Medford Congregational Church meeting hall, 1801 E. Jackson Street in East Medford. The meeting hall is located north of East Jackson Street between North Berkeley Way and North Barneburg Rd. It is most easily accessed from North Barneburg Rd. Just make a left turn into the church parking lot at the tree in the middle of the road.

## OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

**President** Bill Hering : 541-488-5886,  
[bh@ashlandnet.net](mailto:bh@ashlandnet.net)

**Vice-President** Sooney Viani : 541-482-5146,  
[sooneyviani@gmail.com](mailto:sooneyviani@gmail.com)

**Treasurer** Kathy Simonsen, 541-488-0055,  
[simonsen@mind.net](mailto:simonsen@mind.net)

**Secretary** Shelley Tanquary, 541-535-3011,  
[tanquary08@gmail.com](mailto:tanquary08@gmail.com)

Linda Kreisman	541-482-6456
Robert Mumby	541-535-2934
Maggi Rackley	541-855-7935
Katy Reed	541-245-5095

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Annual Picnic:** Gaylene & Judd Hurley, 541-621-3196

### Birdathon:

**Bob Black Fund Administrators:** Gwyneth Ragsine,  
[gwynethr@mind.net](mailto:gwynethr@mind.net) & Denny Neibuhr,  
[rougeden@mind.net](mailto:rougeden@mind.net)

**Book Sales:** Sooney Viani, 541-482-5146

**Chat Editor:** Kaethe Fulton, [chateditor@gmail.com](mailto:chateditor@gmail.com)

**CBC-Ashland:** Harry Fuller, 541-488-8077 & John  
Bullock, [jas@opendoor.com](mailto:jas@opendoor.com)

**CBC-Medford:** Bob Hunter, 541-826-5569

**Conservation:** Pepper Trail, [ptrail@ashlandnet.net](mailto:ptrail@ashlandnet.net) &  
Robert Mumby, 541-535-2934; [rdmumby@charter.net](mailto:rdmumby@charter.net),

**Education:** Lynn Kellogg, [rvas.ed@gmail.com](mailto:rvas.ed@gmail.com)

**Field Notes:** Stewart Janes, 541-772-4595

**Field Trips:** Jeff Tufts, [tallahto@aol.com](mailto:tallahto@aol.com),  
541-779-4582

**Holiday Party Potluck:** Carol Palmer,  
[carol\\_p@charter.net](mailto:carol_p@charter.net)

**Holiday Party Raffle:** Kate Cleland-Sipfle; [sipfle@aol.com](mailto:sipfle@aol.com), 541-482-2933,

**Hospitality:** Katy Reed, 541-245-5095

**Master Gardner Fair:** Robert Mumby;  
[rdmumby@charter.net](mailto:rdmumby@charter.net) & Judd Hurley, [chano-tin@charter.net](mailto:chano-tin@charter.net), 541-621-3918.

**Membership:** Robert Mumby, 541-535-2934

**Membership Database:** Stan McIntosh, 541-535-2053

**Programs:** Alex Maksymowicz, 541-482-1964, [maks-box1@gmail.com](mailto:maks-box1@gmail.com)

**Publicity:** Katy Reed, 541-245-5095

## CHAPTER COMMUNICATIONS

**E-mail Address:** [roguevalleyaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:roguevalleyaudubon@gmail.com)

The Chat: [chateditor@gmail.com](mailto:chateditor@gmail.com)

Webmaster: Maggi Rackley, [imabrrrder@yahoo.com](mailto:imabrrrder@yahoo.com)

Web Site: [www.roguevalleyaudubon.org](http://www.roguevalleyaudubon.org)

## President's Column

I recently read the National Audubon Society Annual Report for 2012 — it's a very impressive document. NAS has an annual budget of \$86 million, 84 percent of which is spent on Conservation programs. President Yarnold identified some key efforts during the past year:

*"We were instrumental in the passage of the RESTORE Act, which will provide up to \$20 billion from BP's civil penalties for restoring the environment and the communities devastated by the Gulf oil spill. We played a lead role in drawing the plans that will protect 11 million acres in Alaska's National Petroleum Reserve. And we launched an innovative approach to wind energy development that balances our nation's growing need for alternative energy with protections for wildlife."*

As one of 465 Audubon chapters, we do our part. With over 600 NAS members in RVAS, we contribute to national programs while supporting bird conservation efforts in the Rogue Valley and in Oregon. For example, RVAS is improving bird habitat by purchasing and planting trees at Whetstone Pond in the Denman Wildlife Management Area, a favorite spot for birders and the site of the First Wednesday walks led by Murray Orr. Our Conservation Committee is also monitoring the several environmental issues coming before the Oregon legislature, while keeping track of plans being developed locally for Ashland Pond. Bird conservation is at the center of every Audubon effort, nationally and locally, and I thank all of you for your support.

Only one field trip is scheduled this month, at Denman on February 6<sup>th</sup>. The Klamath Bird Observatory adds two more, on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and February 9<sup>th</sup>, both on the Bear Creek Greenway (see details elsewhere in this issue).

*President's Column continued on Page 5*

Field Notes: The Changing Seasons

*Compiled by Stewart Janes*

The north woods continues to empty out all over Oregon this year. **Red-breasted Nuthatches** are still raiding feeders across the valley. **Red Crossbills** are still occasionally heard flying high over the foothills. The latest sighting was 1/15 in Ashland. This month we added two more species to the list of boreal forest refugees. **Bohemian Waxwings** have been observed in the junipers in the Siskiyou Pass on 1/13 (FL). This is not the first time they have been in the County, but it is certainly a rare event. The other was a flock of **Common Redpolls** near Pilot Rock on 1/20 (FE). With sightings all along the eastern slopes of the Cascades and even at Tulelake, I was waiting for them to show up in Jackson County. Both species are regular wintering birds in the northeast corner of the state.

I have scoured hundreds of flocks of Brewer's Blackbirds over the years hoping to find the tag-a-long **Rusty Blackbird**. The two are closely related, but the Rusty Blackbird frequents the wooded swamps of Canada and Alaska in the breeding season and winters in the southeast United States in winter. Occasionally a misplaced bird shows up in Oregon. The species has been declining in recent years for reasons that are not clear. Thus it was a pleasant surprise when one showed up near Ashland High School on 12/26 on the Ashland Bird Count.

The most unusual bird to appear this month was the female **Indigo Bunting** at Fountain Plaza in Medford on 1/1 (OS) and has remained. It decided Medford was the place to spend the winter rather than Central America. Indigo Buntings show up rarely in the spring, but a winter sighting is most unusual.

A few summer birds linger with us. The mid-winter **Turkey Vulture** has become a regular fixture. This one was in Central Point on 1/15 (KM). It's hard to tell whether it's early, late, or just hanging around. An **Orange-crowned Warbler** was at Ashland Pond on 1/17 (HF). There always seems to be one wintering in the valley. A flock of **Band-tailed Pigeons** has been frequenting the yard of Alan and Marjorie Neal this month. Wintering birds are unusual in the valley. The surprise was a female **Bullock's Oriole** at the feeder of Eric Setterberg on 12/31 in Ashland. Given the cold weather of late, this bird can't be happy. I'll bet it's wondering where the orange trees are.

The small flock of **Tundra Swans** continues to winter in the Eagle Point area. There have been a half dozen or so birds present every winter for at least the 27 years I have lived here. A bit more unusual were the sightings at Agate Lake on 1/20 (JT) and at Emigrant Lake on 1/2 (FE). A flock of **Greater White-fronted Geese** with a lone **Snow Goose** has been touring the valley. They were at Hammel Pond on 12/25 (LM,MM) and at Billings Pond in Ashland on 1/19 (FE). They were even seen on a flyover on 1/13 (KM).

The **Long-tailed Ducks** continue to be seen on Lost Creek Reservoir 1/20 (BH,GH,BB), and **Canvasbacks** are present in relatively large numbers with birds (35 or more) at Mingus Pond, Tolo Pond, and on Agate Lake (SJ,JT). Eight **Redheads** were on the large pond behind Big R in White City on 12/23.

The **Pacific Loon** at Lost Creek reservoir is also still present as of 1/20 (NB,BH,GH,BB). Two **Clark's Grebes** were at Agate Lake on 1/1 and 1/11 (PT,MM,LM).

## The Conservation Column

By Pepper Trail

The Conservation Committee continues to work on both local and national issues, and next month we will report on the status of Ashland Pond. Changes at this favorite birding locality are being considered by the Ashland Public Works Department, possibly involving using the pond for cooling treated water before that water is returned to Bear Creek. We will make sure that the decision-makers know of the value of Ashland Pond as wildlife habitat and of the regular use it receives from Audubon members.

But this month's column is devoted to an issue I haven't written about yet this year, an issue which looms in the background of all conservation efforts: climate change - or as I prefer to call it, climate chaos. In President Obama's inaugural speech (delivered the same day I wrote this), he gave a prominent place to the urgency of dealing with climate change, and this urgency is reflected in a new draft National Climate Assessment, released this week. This report is a massive federal review of the overwhelming evidence for climate change, and a prediction of what the impacts may be. The draft report is available at: <http://ncadac.globalchange.gov/>.

Here are some of its most sobering findings:

- **More extreme heat:** America will warm by as much as 10 degrees Fahrenheit by 2100 if carbon emissions keep rising, the report says. Greenhouse gas pollution has already roughly doubled the risk of extreme heat events (such as the scorching summer of 2011 in Texas), and major heat waves will become more intense and more common. "By the end of the century," the report reads, "what have previously been once-in-20-year heat waves (4-day events) are projected to occur every two or three years over most of the U.S. In other words, what now seems like an extreme heat wave will become commonplace."

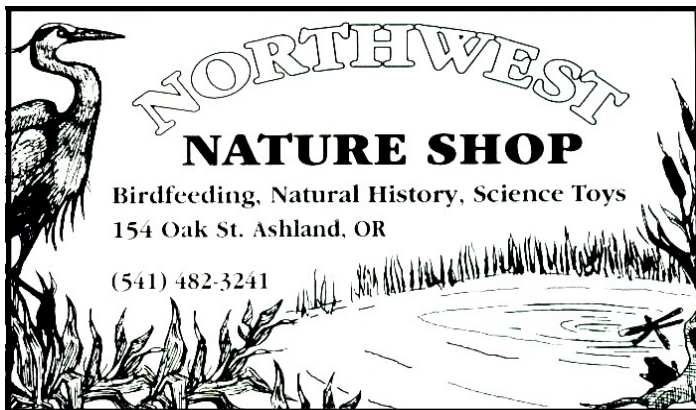
- **Rising seas and more damaging extreme weather:** The power of the strongest hurricanes will continue to rise, the report says, and most areas of the United States will see more frequent and more intense downpours, which can lead to harmful flooding. Sea levels could rise four feet by 2100, imperiling communities and critical infrastructure, as well as key wildlife habitat. Storm surges will become more destructive because they will ride on higher sea levels.
- **Endangered food supply:** Food insecurity will increase in America and around the world. Yields of major U.S. crops are expected to decline by 2050, the report says, because of rising temperatures and growing precipitation extremes. Fishing and other marine-based food production will also suffer because ocean waters are becoming warmer and more acidic.
- **Biodiversity threatened:** Many plants and animals and their habitats may be overwhelmed by climate change and other stressors. Climate change is altering some ecosystems so rapidly, the report finds, that many species "may disappear from regions where they have been prevalent, changing some regions so much that their mix of plant and animal life will become almost unrecognizable."
- **Carbon emissions rising rapidly:** Carbon pollution is still increasing, with global emissions "on track to be even higher than the high emissions scenario" analyzed in the report. America's contribution to global emissions is about 20 percent, the report notes, and our efforts to reduce pollution are too slight to comply with international agreements to avoid dangerous climate change.

Deep and rapid greenhouse gas cuts are needed to reduce these risks. If the earth is to escape truly catastrophic climate chaos in the coming century, the United States must take immediate and vigorous action to reduce our production of greenhouse gases. It is up to all of us to urge our elected leaders, beginning with President Obama, to begin this work today. Not tomorrow, today.

*President's Column, continued from Page 2*

KBO conducts long-term monitoring and applied research projects that provide scientific results about bird population trends, demographics, life history, distribution and habitat relationships. KBO is one of our valued partners in bird conservation, and they deserve your support.

Another birding event is Project Feeder-Watch at Ashland's North Mountain Park on Saturday February 16th. The one-hour session (9:00 - 10:00 AM) led by an experienced birder gives novice birders a guided opportunity to better their skills and offers experienced birders an informal chance to meet for a short time to exchange birding wisdom. I hope to see you there. Good Birding! -- Bill Hering



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN FEBRUARY AT WHETSTONE POND**

**4 HOURS PER PERSON IS ALL THAT'S  
NEEDED**

The RVAS Board of Directors has approved a conservation project for the Whetstone Pond at the Denman Wildlife Management Area (DWMA) just off Gregory Road in White City.

Twenty-seven trees will be planted around the pond to improve the habitat for birds and other wildlife plus provide shade for the many people who visit the pond. Twenty Oregon Ash will provide food for several bird species, four Bigleaf Maples will provide much needed shade for bird watchers, fishermen and other, and three Black Cottonwood trees will eventually provide nesting sites for herons and raptors.

The DWMA staff will bring the trees from the nursery and dig holes for the trees after we mark the locations. We need some volunteers to place the trees (3-gallon size) in the holes and then replace the dirt and another group of volunteers to cut chicken wire and place the wire around the trees to protect them from beavers or other hungry critters (deer are not a problem in this area).

We anticipate the work will take no more than 4 hours depending on how many volunteers show up, the more workers, the quicker we will finish. A light lunch will be provided. We plan to hold the planting day in mid-February and will postpone work if bad weather. Contact Robert Mumby at [rdmumby@charter.net](mailto:rdmumby@charter.net) if you would like to volunteer. Once we have enough volunteers, we will schedule the work and 'rain check' day.

*Field Notes continued from Page 3*

The **Pacific Loon** at Lost Creek reservoir is also still present as of 1/20 (NB,BH,GH,BB). Two **Clark's Grebes** were at Agate Lake on 1/1 and 1/11 (PT,MM,LM). An unusual immature **Glaucous-winged Gull** was at Agate Lake on 1/11 (JT) and seven **Least Sandpipers** were at the Kirtland Ponds between 1/8 and 1/11 (JT,PT).

The **Long-tailed Ducks** continue to be seen on Lost Creek Reservoir 1/20 (BH,GH,BB), and **Canvas-backs** are present in relatively large numbers with birds (35 or more) at Mingus Pond, Tolo Pond, and on Agate Lake (SJ,JT). Eight **Redheads** were on the large pond behind Big R in White City on 12/23.

The **Pacific Loon** at Lost Creek reservoir is also still present as of 1/20 (NB,BH,GH,BB). Two **Clark's Grebes** were at Agate Lake on 1/1 and 1/11 (PT,MM,LM). An unusual immature **Glaucous-winged Gull** was at Agate Lake on 1/11 (JT) and seven **Least Sandpipers** were at the Kirtland Ponds between 1/8 and 1/11 (JT,PT).

The dark phase **Rough-legged Hawk** continues to be seen about the Willamette Egg Farm in Eagle Point (MM,LM), and the light phase bird is still present along Brophy Road. A **Ferruginous Hawk** was along Newland Road on 1/9 (MM,LM).

Some other special visitors include three **Pygmy Nuthatches** at Riverside Park new Lost Creek Reservoir on 1/20 (BH,GH,BB). They joined the other eastside visitor, the **Red-naped Sapsucker** that has been present since 1/3 (NB). A **Swamp Sparrow** was along Foothill Road on 1/15 (RN). I suspect many go overlooked in winter.

Other sightings of note include **Mountain Chickadees** at the home of Gwyneth Ragsine in Ashland and the home of Ron Ketchum in Jacksonville. **Evening Grosbeaks** were in Ashland on 12/29 (GR) and in Prospect on 1/3 (ML). A **White-throated Sparrow** was reported once again from Ashland Pond. **Townsend's Warblers** were seen at two locations in Ashland and in Dark Hollow.

Thanks to this month's contributors including Brian Barr, Norm Barrett, Forest English, Harry Fuller, Bob Hunter, Gretchen Hunter, Ron Ketchum, Frank Lospalutto, Kate McKenzie, Mo Lolandi, Lisa Moore, Marjorie Moore, Russ Namitz, Alan Neal, Marjorie Neal, Michael Parker, Gwyneth Ragsine, Eric Setterberg, Otis Swisher, Pepper Trail, and Jeff Tufts. Deadline for contribution to the Field Notes in the next edition of The Chat is February 15.

### Attention Rogue Valley Birders (and enthusiasts of all living things that fly)

Check out the new website which features the work of local nature photographer and bird walk leader Norm Barrett. Norm is a Shady Cove resident and former Biologist with the National Forest Service. His featured photographs are of dragonflies and damselflies, birds, wildflowers and even a link to photos of grappletails (go ahead and look that one up!). The website, [nmbnaturephotography.com](http://nmbnaturephotography.com) is described as a work in progress, the best kind of website. Jeff Tufts

### FIELD TRIP LEADERS NEEDED

Local birders are needed to lead field trips. Field Trip Chairman Jeff Tufts coordinates the events, but leaders have the option of choosing their destinations. Please contact Jeff at [tallahto@aol.com](mailto:tallahto@aol.com) to volunteer, or to get further information. Thank you.

## WELCOME NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS\*

If you see the name of someone you know below, invite them to join you at our meetings or bird walks.

### ASHLAND

Erin Chesnut  
Carol Hines  
John Holloway  
T.S. Karlin  
Megan Lobov  
Marla Morrissey  
Nuria San-Mauro  
Carla Rogers  
Bruce Sargent  
Suzanne Seiber  
Nalani Strauman  
Catherine Welsh  
Tara Woolstenhulme

### BUTTE FALLS

Judy Hanshue Lozano

### GOLD HILL

Maxine Cass  
Carolyn Platt & Eric Hoddersen

### JACKSONVILLE

Connie Goodrich  
Linsley Griffin  
Marion Hadden & James Sartorio  
Diane Offenbacher  
Terry Wolf

### MEDFORD

Carlene Baker  
Clarence Branam  
Ken Compton  
Mirian Direda  
Brigitta Ericsson  
Neysha C. Gilstrap  
Marsha Larson  
John Letz  
Eleonora Rutter  
Jack Mix  
Sherry Purkiser  
Patricia Walls

### EAGLE POINT

Diane Shockey  
Eunice Sleppy  
David Tracy  
Ann Valencia  
Lila Williams

### PROSPECT

Len Vaglia

### TALENT

Sandra Miller

\*: Since July 2012



## BILL HOLMES 1923—2012

Long time RVAS board member and Treasurer Bill Holmes passed away in his home in Ashland on December 16, 2012. A celebration of his life was held at Rogue Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on January 12, 2013. Until his final illness Bill, as he was commonly called, could be seen riding three-wheeled cycle around Ashland.

Bill was raised through-out the west as his father was employed by the US Fisheries and Bill attended schools in Portland and Seattle. His education at the University of Washington was interrupted by WW II when he was trained as a flier and was assigned as a pilot of a B-17. After the war Bill's crew was assigned to Air-Sea Rescue on the South American Theatre as troops were flown home across the Atlantic. On his return to college, Bill earned a Master's Degree in chemical Engineering, raised a family of four daughters, and enjoyed hiking and camping throughout the Sierras. Bill is survived by his wife June, daughters Gail Record, Ann Holmes and Zoe (Lois) Ashcroft, along with the spouses, eleven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Bill will also be missed by his wife June's three children, spouses, and six granddaughters.

### *Christmas Bird count continued*

Other birds of interest: Collared-Doves were up to 22; a Rough-legged Hawk; 4 Peregrine and 5 Prairie Falcon; only one gull, a first-year California; five owl species including a pre-dawn Spotted; 2 White-tailed Kite; 18 species of waterfowl; 4 Great Egrets; 16 Red-breasted Sapsuckers; 2 Dipper; 2 dozen Evening Grosbeaks.

This year we had nearly 90 Lewis's Woodpeckers, none last year. The Varied Thrush count was over 220, about twelve times the 2011 total. Other abundant birds included: Robins (over 6700), Juncos (1800+), Golden-crowned Sparrow (725), Starling (590), Canada Goose (450) and Lesser Goldfinch (425).

Count information provided by Bob Hunter (Medford) and Harry Fuller (Ashland).

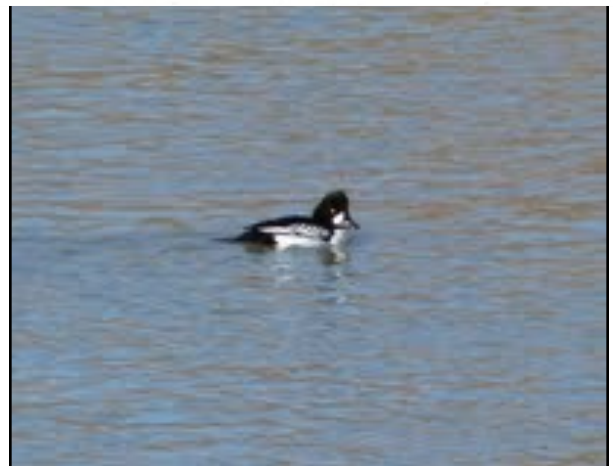
## **Wild Birds Unlimited**



**Owner — Katy Reed**  
**Your Backyard**  
**Birdfeeding Specialist**

**No-waste seed for the wild birds! Birdfeeders  
Bird Houses and much more!  
And much more!**

712 Crater Lake Avenue 770-1104  
(Across from Providence Medical Center)  
Mon-Fri 9:30-6:00, Sat 9:30-5:00





## 2012 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT RESULTS

**The Medford and Ashland Christmas Bird Counts were held in mid to late December. The following is a summary of the results:**

**Medford:** The count, held on December 15, was the 63rd annual count held in Medford. Overall 59 participants recorded 129 species on count day, 130 for count week.

- The first ever American white pelican was seen by Jim Harleman's team. The team also found a black-billed magpie, the first seen in many years (last seen in 1977) with only 14 previous sightings in the history of the area count.
- A first year Harris's sparrow was found by Dick Ashford, seen in only 3 previous counts.
- Fifty-three red crossbills were seen, a count record, with red crossbills recorded in only 5 previous counts.
- Stewart Janes and team found two Townsend's Warblers, for a Medford county high. Townsend's Warblers have been documented in 8 previous Medford counts.
- One Ferruginous hawk was spotted by Bob Hunter's team, seen in only 9 previous counts.
- A Horned grebe was seen by Norm Barrett during count week, seen in only 5 previous counts.
- Rock wrens were counted on both Upper and Lower Table Rocks.
- Two Evening grosbeaks, recorded by Ralph Browning, were the only ones seen on the count.
- There were Medford count highs of Red-shouldered hawks (22), Peregrine falcons (11) Eurasian collared doves (134), and Red-breasted nuthatch (44).
- No gulls were counted this year though Ring-billed gulls have been seen in 29 counts and California gulls in 11 counts.
- Only 4 pheasant were recorded, a low number, as they have been seen in 61 previous counts with a previous count low of only 2.
- And while White-tailed kites are not seen every year, this years count of 6 was only 1 more than the previous low count for the years they have been reported.
- Pepper Trail's and Chris Uhtoff counted 50,000 starlings and 10,100 robins. Large flocks of robins were seen by them flying out of the former Kelley's Slough in the morning and again at dusk. The starlings came flocking in at dusk.

**Ashland:** The third annual Ashland count was held on December 27 with 36 participants reporting over 16,000 species. 118 species were recorded on count day, 120 for count week.

- Barrow's Goldeneye were found on an ice free Keene Creek Reservoir.
- Emigrant Lake was especially ducky with 12 species, a large increase over the previous year.
- The rarest bird was a female Rusty blackbird in the Icterid flock around Ashland High School.

*Christmas Bird Count results continued on Page 8*

## Join our Society

If you like to hang out with the birds, join the *Rogue Valley Audubon Society*



If you would like to

- ☐ Attend our monthly meeting & programs
- ☐ Participate in our field trips and bird walks
- ☐ Read our newsletter The Chat
- ☐ Support our classes for children
- ☐ Help protect bird habitats
- ☐ Support local bird research

... you belong in the Rogue Valley Audubon Society!

-----  
Please make your tax-deductible donation payable to:

**Rogue Valley Audubon Society - P.O. Box 8597 – Medford, OR 97501**

\$20 \_\_\_ local member \$ \_\_\_\_\_ additional donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the Bob Black Fund\*

NAME (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me about volunteering YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

\*This fund is use for local bird research projects and to promote interest in birds and birding.

## **KBO COMMUNITY BIRD WALKS**

The Klamath Bird Observatory provides two community bird walks each month. You can find up-to-date information about upcoming Klamath Bird Observatory trips on the bottom left of their homepage ([www.klamathbird.org](http://www.klamathbird.org)) under "Trips and Events" Here are their February and March walks:

**Bird Walk to Bear Creek Greenway in Talent: Sat, February 2, 8:00am - 10:30am.**

Meet at the Northwest Nature Shop in Ashland at 800am. We will drive north on I5, take the first exit in Talent, and park at the Bear Creek Greenway. We will walk south from there, looking and listening for a variety of songbirds, and we'll also check the ponds for water birds. Come join us for this brisk adventure! This trip is limited to 15 participants and registration is required. To register, call the Northwest Nature Shop (541 482-3241).

**Bird Walk on Central Point Greenway to Mingus Pond: Sat, February 9, 8am - 11am.**

Meet at Wild Birds Unlimited in Medford at 800am. Join an experienced KBO Bird Walk Leader on an exciting trip along the Central Point Greenway, northwest of Medford, with the destination of Mingus Pond. Expect to see a variety of resident and wintering songbirds, as well as some nice water birds. Limited to 15 participants. To register, call 541-770-1104.

**Bird Walk to TouVelle Park and Denman Area: Sat, March 2, 8am - 2pm.** Meet at Northwest Nature Shop in Ashland at 800am. Join a KBO Bird Walk leader on a 1/2 day trip to TouVelle Park and for a drive around the Denman Game Management area. Participants can bring a lunch. We'll look for waterfowl, shorebirds such as Greater Yellowlegs, maybe we'll spot a Peregrine Falcon hunting around the Rogue River, and we'll check the Great Blue Heron rookery for possible early activity plus we'll check out resident and wintering songbirds. Expect to be back by 200pm. This outing is limited to 15 participants and registration is required. To register, contact the Northwest Nature Shop (541 482-3241).

**Bird Walk to Roxy Ann Peak: Sat, March 9, 8:00am - 11:30am.** Meet at Wild Birds Unlimited in Medford at 8:00 am. Join a KBO Bird Walk leader on a moderate hike to Roxy Ann Peak. The trail is 1.5 miles long (so 3-miles out and back) that gains roughly 600 feet in elevation. Bring snacks, layered clothing for a variety of temperatures, and plenty of water. Vegetation is mostly chaparral and oak with conifers at the peak and on the NW slope. We expect to see both goldfinches, Bewick Wrens, nuthatches, bluebirds, some raptors, including a chance of seeing a Peregrine Falcon, and possibly some early migrants. Also, you'll enjoy great views of the valley Limited to 15 participants. To register, call 541-770-1104.

# ROGUE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

## THE CHAT

### Newsletter of the ROGUE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

Post Office Box 8597

Medford, OR 97501

NON- PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION

US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NUMBER 781  
MEDFORD, OR 97501

DATED MATERIAL

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



---

## **ALLEN G. DRESCHER, P.C.** *Attorney At Law*

---

Member, National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys

21 South 2nd Street (541) 482-4935  
P.O. Box 760 Fax (541) 482-4941  
Ashland, OR 97520 drescheral@aol.com  
[www.ashlandoregonlawyer.com](http://www.ashlandoregonlawyer.com)

### **Sign up to receive easy notification of Chapter activities**

Your Audubon Chapter wants to be sure you are aware of upcoming field trips, chapter meetings, the most recent edition of *The Chat*, and other items we post on-line. Send an e-mail [RogueValleyAudubon@gmail.com](mailto:RogueValleyAudubon@gmail.com) and ask to be added to the e-mail notification list. And be assured, we will never share your e-mail address with any other organizations.

---

## **MONTHLY BIRD WALK WITH MURRAY ORR**

**First Wednesday Each Month: Little Butte Creek Walk.** Meet at entrance gate of the Denman Wildlife Area at 8:00 and the walk will start at 8:30. (The gate is open between 8 and 8:30 only.) Please contact **Murray Orr**, **541-857-9050** for details and if you are willing to join him in organizing these bird walks. He needs volunteers to help him open and close the gate and record observed species when he is not available. Walks will continue through 2012-2013.

