

The Chat

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A voice for education and conservation in the natural world

Rogue Valley Audubon Society

www.roguevalleyaudubon.org

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month



CHAPTER PROGRAM MEETING

SEPT. 24 —7:00 PM

JOIN OTIS SWISHER AND VINCE ZAUSKEY AS THEY PRESENT A PROGRAM ON BIRDING IN THE ROGUE VALLEY—THEN AND NOW

This meeting marks the beginning of our 42nd year. RVAS founder Otis Swisher will present a program on birding in the Rogue Valley over the past 40 years, what has changed and what remains the same. RVAS Charter Member Vince Zauskey, known to many through his leadership of RVAS and Klamath Bird Observatory field trips, will join Otis in this presentation.

In his own words, Otis describes the presentation like this: "Every birding trip is a chance to start or add to a birder's rolodex of memories". Otis will share some of his at our meeting. Including:

- An embarrassed Sanderling
- A Wrentit conversation
- Nidifugous...what's that?
- You saw a Lesser Yellowlegs where?
- Well, scratch my head
- A 200 mile transect for birds

- Yellow birds and sagebrush
- That's why they are called Tyrant Flycatchers
- Hepburn or Pribilof?
- Whistles, fishes and a few kisses*
- And, if time permits: what do shoes have to do with Long-eared owls?

*Otis also requests audience participation—please be ready to whistle, fish and kiss.

Please join us as we honor Otis Swisher at the September 24 meeting



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President's Column

Your RVAS Board of Directors met for a full day in June, to review the 2012-13 year just completed, and plan for the 2013-14 year. Those plans include support for completion of a 4th edition of "Birds of Jackson County". Stewart Janes will lead a committee to complete this task, with release scheduled for November of 2014.

The Board agreed to support a full schedule of field trips, including two Saturday or Sunday field trips nearly every month, in addition to the First Wednesday field trips led by Murray Orr at Denman Wildlife Area. Thanks to Maggi Rackley we are already well on the way toward meeting this goal.

The Board also established a goal to expand our Birdathon activity, which is one of two major RVAS fund-raising efforts. Although we have always had a few teams of eager participants, for Birdathon 2014 we would like to expand the number of teams, with teams bringing pledges of support from their friends as they identify as many species as they can. I hope some of you will offer to help meet this goal. A coordinator and a planning committee will be needed. Please call or e-mail me if you are interested in being involved. I'll be glad to discuss the effort, and to hear your suggestions.

2013 marks the 42nd year of the Rogue Valley Audubon Society. There were 94 members when we became an official National Audubon Society chapter in 1971. Today over 700 members make RVAS a strong and viable voice for birds and bird conservation in the Rogue Valley. 2013 also marks the 40th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act. This law has allowed many species to bounce back from the brink of extinction. The heart of Audubon is bird conservation, and through the efforts of our own Conservation Committee we will continue to support this whenever needed.

Good Birding! -- Bill Hering

Field Notes: The Changing Seasons

Compiled by Stewart Janes

The lazy days of summer have been true to form. For most birds it is a time to wrap up breeding and begin the preparations for fall and winter. It is a time to molt. Only the **Collared Doves** continue to sing and rear one more brood. This year singing of most species concluded early in my yard. In particular the two pair of **House Wrens** in my yard raised one just family each, and I heard not a single song after late June. Last year they raised multiple broods and sang into August. The robins, too, ended early. I have no idea why.

Most of the excitement this summer was over the hill near Hilt. A **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** made a brief appearance. Yellow-billed Cuckoos once nested in Oregon as far north as the Columbia River in the extensive cottonwoods. Numbers were never large, but by the 1960s sightings were rare. They were more common in the riparian zones of the Central Valley of California from Redding to the southern Sierra. These populations, too, have faded. Thus the bird that was photographed on the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument on 7/7 by Tim Johnson caused a stir. Unfortunately it could not be relocated.

However, in the process another unusual bird was located on 7/20, a **California Thrasher**. This bird was also photographed by Tim Johnson but escaped further detection. California Thrashers are a sedentary bird of the California chaparral. They occur frustratingly close to Oregon in the Klamath River watershed but rarely cross over the line. The search continues for breeding birds on our side of the border. Thus this sighting generated considerable interest and I'm sure will have more birders risking scrapes and ticks in the shrublands of the south-facing slopes of the Siskiyou listening hard for more birds next spring.

The patch of sage near Grouse Gap continues to attract **Brewer's Sparrows**. A breeding pair was seen by several between 7/1 and 8/16 (PT,FE,RN,FL). This bird is common east of the Cascades in sage and bunchgrass steppes but a few find a home at high elevations in Jackson County in the scattered stands of sage.

Late summer produces abundant brown ducks (eclipse plumage) and a silent forest, but we can always count on shorebirds to produce some excitement. When I was in Nome in the third week of June, migrant flocks of shorebirds were still heading north. Two weeks later the first of the fall migrants were appearing in Jackson County. I still haven't figured this one out. Do these early migrants represent subadults that make the trip for fun or birds from failed nesting attempts that realize the arctic allows no time for second attempts?

Western and **Least Sandpipers** appeared at Agate Lake as early as 7/6 (JT) with larger numbers including 75 **Least Sandpipers**, 15 **Western Sandpipers** plus the odd **Long-billed Dowitcher** and **Greater Yellowlegs** on 7/16 (RN). A **Wilson's Phalarope** appeared at the Kirtland Ponds on 7/23 (RN) and another at Wilson's Pond on 7/28. **Semipalmated Plovers** were first reported on 7/28 (BH), and a **Pectoral Sandpiper** on Rosebud Lane on 8/4 (DA).

The Conservation Column

By Pepper Trail

I was away from southern Oregon for most of the summer, stationed in Hanoi, Vietnam, where I was working on international wildlife conservation issues. This experience redoubled my commitment to local conservation. Compared to most of the world, our wildlife is still incredibly abundant, we have large areas of habitat set aside as wild, and there is a broad cultural consensus on the importance of wildlife. We have so much left to protect, and we need to recognize how significant that makes our region on a global scale.

With this background, the current crisis on the Klamath Basin refuges is doubly tragic. Here is one of the premier waterfowl areas of the world, and it is being allowed to go dry. As many of you know, the long and complex assignment of water rights in the Basin was completed this spring, with the most senior right being awarded to the Klamath Tribes. They exercised that right, and the subsequent management decisions by the Bureau of Reclamation have resulted in no water deliveries to the refuge lands (except commercial leaseland farms on the refuges) since the spring.

This story has not received the attention it deserves in Rogue Valley newspapers, and so I provide two summaries of the summer's news from Klamath Falls' *Herald and News*.

Parties affected by water shortage in the Basin (excerpts)

by Devan Schwartz; posted in the *Herald and News*, July 19, 2013

The Klamath Tribes

The Klamath Tribes hold the most senior water right in the Klamath Basin. Their June 10 call for water assured required minimum flows remain in the rivers and streams. Even with the majority of upper Basin users regulated off, watermaster Scott White said only a single creek has met its required flows.

Chairman of the Klamath Tribes Don Gentry said their in-stream water rights "protect treaty resources which include fisheries and wocus and other species associated with streams and rivers. We used science to help establish our claims and our rights based on what fish need and what these other resources need." The Klamath Tribes fish for trout, though they are no longer able to fish for short-nose and Lost River sucker due to their endangered status. In the longer-term, the tribes hope restored streams and fisheries [and removal of four hydroelectric dams along the Klamath River] will eventually be greeted by the return of salmon.

Wildlife Refuges

The Klamath Basin has a complex of six national wildlife refuges including the nation's oldest, though the refuges are low on the water priority list. WaterWatch of Oregon's communications director Jim McCarthy said the Lower Klamath is the prize refuge in a very important refuge system, providing 80 percent of habitat for migrating waterfowl. "It's a very important point along the Pacific flyway and it's dry and it may be dry during the fall migration. I don't know where the needed water is going to come from," McCarthy said.

About three-quarters of more than 350,000 acres of wetland were converted to farmland when the Klamath Project began in the early 1900s. The fact the refuges rank low on the list of senior and junior water claims is especially damaging in a drought year when water is at a premium. Connected to the Klamath Project's water rights, leaseland farms on Tule Lake and Lower Klamath do receive water for agriculture — the only refuges in the country allowing this sort of private farming. Besides that, Lower Klamath is essentially dry.

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Field notes continued from page 3

An **American Avocet** paused at the Kirtland Ponds on 8/7 (RN) and another at Hyatt Lake on 8/9 (JT). Two **Baird's Sandpipers** and a **Red-necked Phalarope** were at the Kirtland Ponds on 8/7 (RN). A rare **Semipalmated Sandpiper** was at the Kirtland Ponds on 8/8 along with the **Baird's Sandpipers** (RN). Semipalmated Sandpipers typically migrate down the east coast and Baird's Sandpipers through the Great Plains. Agate Lake produced the usual migrant shorebirds on 8/10 but also a **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, **Wilson's Phalarope**, and **Long-billed Dowitcher** (RN). Stay tuned there is much more yet to come.

It's a bit early for waterfowl migration as most are deep into molt and flightless in July and early August, but the odd **Green-winged Teal**, **Northern Shoveler**, **American Wigeon** and **Bufflehead** were observed from the Kirtland Ponds, Lost Creek Reservoir and Emigrant Lake between 6/25 and 8/19 (JT,RN,FL). We are at the very southern end of their summer distribution though most of these probably represent nonbreeders. And, yes, the **Ruddy Duck** was still at the Kirtland Ponds as of 7/25 (JT).

Late July brought a **White-faced Ibis** to Agate Lake and has remained until at least 8/10 (JT,GR,RN). A flock of 4 was over Eagle Point on 8/12 (BH).


Other waterbird sightings of note include **Western** and **Clark's Grebes** at Agate Lake on 8/10 (RN), **Western Grebes** at Emigrant Lake on 8/19 (FL), and an **Eared Grebe** at Emigrant Lake on 8/8 (FE). **Bonaparte's Gulls** were at the Kirtland Ponds on 6/25 and 7/7 (RN), and a **Herring Gull** was at Emigrant Lake on 8/13 (DA).

Great Gray Owls were more visible than usual with birds seen from Keno Road to Greensprings Mountain (KCS,DA,PK,EM). **Northern Goshawks** were seen on Mount Ashland between 7/10 and 8/16 (DA,FL,PT).

Migrating or pre-migrating flocks of several species were noted. Large numbers of **Hermit Warblers** were noted at Howard Prairie on 8/4 (HF). **Lazuli Buntings** were abundant at Grouse Gap on 8/16. I saw more than 50 along the shores of Upper Klamath Lake on the same date feasting on Klamath Plums along with numerous **Western Tanagers**. About 500 **Pine Siskins** were on Mount Ashland on 8/13 (FL). Could this be the beginning of an invasion year?

Other sightings of note include a **Bank Swallow** at Emigrant Lake on 8/8 (FL), **Purple Martins** at the Kirtland Ponds on 7/23 (RN), (they have to be nesting in the area), and families of **White-headed Woodpeckers** on Mount Ashland (FL).

Thanks to this month's contributors including Dick Ashford, Forrest English, Harry Fuller, Bob Hunter, Tim Johnson, Peter Klienhenz, Frank Lospalutto, Ellen Messerly, Russ Namitz, Gwyneth Ragsone, Kate Cleland-Sipfle, Pepper Trail, and Jeff Tufts. Deadline for contributions to the Field Notes in the next edition of The Chat is September 15.



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"This is no way to run one of the most important refuges in the country," said McCarthy, who expects limited habitat to provide a recipe for botulism, cholera and starvation. In past years, thousands of migrating waterfowl have died in the refuges. Ron Cole manages the Klamath Basin refuges for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Though he's seen the refuges this dry before it was never until late August. Cole said Lower Klamath currently has less than 600 wetland acres with an average water depth of three inches; his normal objective is 8,000 to 10,000 acres with an average depth of 18 inches. When Lower Klamath Refuge is full of water, there are about 31,000 wetland acres. "This is one of the largest managed freshwater wetlands in North America. It's very important," Cole said. About 80 percent of birds on the Pacific flyway stop in the Klamath Basin each spring and fall, and half of those come to Lower Klamath refuge, the refuge manager estimated. Over the last decade Cole has seen 15,000 to 25,000 young produced each year; this year, he's estimating 750 to 2,500 young birds. "That would certainly be the lowest total I've seen," Cole said. "Over 80 vertebrate species are found there. They all have issues because they're depending on wetlands for their existence. They can't function without water and chronically dewatering them causes problems with breeding and nesting and impacts our wildlife populations."

Cole doesn't expect any water to Lower Klamath in the near future. And yet, with U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Bureau of Reclamation working together, he hopes they will deliver enough water to create sufficient habitat this fall. "There's over a million birds waiting to come up. We'll get anywhere from 1-2 million birds in the Basin. These birds belong to the public," said Cole.

Klamath Project

An early priority date on their water claim allowed the Klamath Project to make a call for water that has resulted in maintained water deliveries as spigots in the upper Basin have gone dry. Rob Unruh is board president of the Klamath Water Users Association who farms north of Malin. He said hay is being harvested right now and wheat will come soon, along with potatoes. Even with a declared drought in the area, he said the water claims and the leadership of his organization and the Bureau of Reclamation have provided a silver lining. "This was a really dry year and based on the project we're doing better than we have in the past," Unruh said. The Klamath Reclamation Project covers 225,000 acres along the Oregon-California border and provides irrigation water to over 1,000 farms and ranches.

Off-Project users

The upper Klamath Basin paints a very different picture than the Klamath Project. Numbers differ on the number of cattle affected. Some say 70,000. Some say 100,000. Either way, it's a parched landscape for the 138,000 acres around Sprague River, Chiloquin and Fort Klamath. When calls for water were made by the Klamath Tribes and the Project June 10, the process of state water regulation began. Irrigation water has been shut off from the Sprague, Williamson and Wood river systems, though some with well water are still able to irrigate. Exceptions have been made for human consumption and water for stock animals. Otherwise, it's the reverse of 2001 when the Project had its water shut off and upper Basin ranchers were still allowed to irrigate.

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The promise of water vs. demand

Op-Ed by Quinn Read (Klamath Wildlife Advocate at Oregon Wild). Posted in the *Herald and News*, July 7, 2013

"Last week's water rally by ranchers in the Klamath Basin missed the point. No matter how you divvy up the water, no matter who gets priority, there is simply not enough to go around. Unfortunately, this year's drought emergency is making a bad situation worse. Even Crater Lake, Oregon's only national park, is not immune to water shutoffs. This situation could have been avoided. The disastrous drought of 2001 and the resulting water shutoffs put the region on notice. It was as clear then, as it is today, there is insufficient water to meet the needs of all the interests in the Klamath Basin. Leaders, including Sen. Ron Wyden, recognized then that we need a plan to bring demand for water into balance with the actual supply. Yet, when Sen. Wyden proposed an amendment to the 2002 Farm Bill to create a voluntary demand reduction program, it faced enormous opposition from many of the same individuals that came out to protest the latest Klamath water crisis. Though Sen. Wyden's plan passed in the U.S. Senate, it was killed by the House of Representatives because of opposition from the Klamath Water Users Association and other agribusiness interests. Had Sen. Wyden's forward-thinking demand reduction plan been enacted, the Klamath Basin would not be in the mess it is today. A decade has passed with little progress in resolving the fact that too much water has been promised to too many different interests. Instead, a tremendous amount of time, energy, and resources has been squandered pursuing unrealistic agreements that require nearly \$1 billion in federal tax dollars, even as conditions for fish, wildlife and farmers have worsened. For the wildlife that depends upon the Klamath Basin's irreplaceable National Wildlife Refuges, the delay in meaningful action to reduce the demand for water has been devastating. Areas managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as "permanent" wetlands went dry by April. Today, Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge has less than 1,000 acres of wetlands with water, in an area that should support 31,000 acres of wildlife habitat. Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge may be allowed to go completely dry, putting the survival of two species of critically endangered fish at risk. Not only do the refuges provide a critical haven for wildlife, they attract tens of thousands of visitors, which in turn sustain jobs and businesses throughout the Upper Klamath Basin. Yet these National Wildlife Refuges are among the most abused public lands in America. Wildlife comes a distant second to heavily subsidized leasing programs for agribusiness on refuge lands. It's not uncommon to observe bone-dry wetlands during critical wildlife migration periods while commercial row crops on the refuges are lavishly irrigated. Protesters in last week's Klamath water rally may be unaware of the problems facing the National Wildlife Refuges. Likewise, they may not know how bad conditions are for fish in Upper Klamath Lake, or salmon in the Klamath River. But angry anti-government protests focusing on impossible demands for more water, right now, do nothing to address the underlying cause of the problem. This has to change. What the Klamath Basin desperately needs is a program to reduce the demand for water. Rather than hoping for a massive \$800 million bailout and settlement from Congress, all interests in the Basin should re-examine Sen. Wyden's 2001 plan. His legislation to work with local landowners to purchase water rights, voluntarily and at fair market value, so that they can be retired, remains the fairest and most effective way to resolve the water woes of the Klamath Basin.

The Conservation Committee is seeking more members.

Bird conservation is at the heart of the Audubon cause. The RVAS Conservation Committee meets twice a year to set objectives, discuss issues and plan local conservation work. Co-Chair Pepper Trail focuses primarily on national and regional issues and writes most of the Conservation Columns for *The Chat*. Co-Chair Robert Mumby focuses on local issues. If you are interested in joining the committee, contact Robert Mumby at 541-535-2934 or rdmumby@charter.net. We are interested in adding a RVAS liaison with the Klamath Wild-life Refuge Complex, so if that is an interest of yours, please let Robert know. Thanks!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR DECEMBER 7, 2013!

IT'S THE DATE OF THE HOLIDAY PARTY WITH POTLUCK, PROGRAM, RAFFLE AND AUCTION AT THE MEDFORD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Back by popular demand will be Pepper Trail and emcee and Jim Livaudais with a program of birds of "some place in the world". For now, we will leave you in suspense about where.

Our auction, raffle, program and potluck make for a fine evening where we have a great time, eat well, learn something, and most of all, raise money to support RVAS educational programs from Feederwatch to new outreach opportunities including bird conservation programs to local schools and service organizations throughout Jackson County.

Event organizers are looking for volunteers to help with many tasks. Please contact Sooney Viani at 541-482-5146 or Kate Cleland-Sipfle at 541-482-2933 if you are interested in helping with the event.



FIELD TRIP LEADERS NEEDED

Local birders are needed to lead field trips. Field Trip Chairman Maggi Rackley coordinates the events, but leaders have the option of choosing their destinations. Please contact Maggi at imabrrrder@yahoo.com to volunteer, or to get further information. Thank you.

RVAS MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Rogue Valley Audubon Society is a chapter of the National Audubon Society and everyone who joins NAS is enrolled as a member of the RVAS as well. We welcome the following new members:

Jeanie Adams, Peggie Adams, Gail Ahrens, John A. Austbo, John C. Bigelow, Gerald J. Cavanaugh, Lisa Chain, Donald D'Aoust, Carolyn Federico, Marshall Forrest, Juliet Grable, Jan Helit, Renny Holloway, Regina Jansen, Shirley Jensen, Janis Lockridge, Suzanne Marshall, Phoebe Meyer, Lynn Peaks, Erich Reeder, Susanna Reid, Larry & Doreta Rider, Ms. Susan Severin, Robert Smith, Zac Spansail, Ida Thomson, Ronald Torrey, Michelle Tresch, Markey Veronica, Judith Weston, John White, T. Wicklund, Alan Wyeth, Barbara York, La Vonna Zurligen

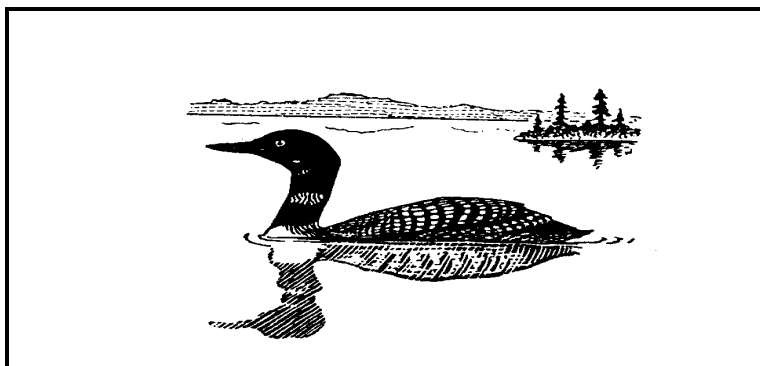
As a new National Audubon Society/Rogue Valley Audubon Society member you will receive the next issue of *The Chat* newsletter in a special mailing, along with other Rogue Valley Audubon Society information and a postpaid, preaddressed postal card so that you may indicate your preference for future issues of *The Chat*. You may elect to receive future issues of *The Chat*, by mail, at no cost to you, or choose to view it online at <http://www.roguevalleyaudubon.org/>. Please return the Post Card to let us know what you prefer. Also join us at our Chapter meetings, field trips and bird walks, and let us know how you would like to become involved. Welcome to RVAS!

ASHLAND CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT UPDATE

The Ashland CBC this year will be on Saturday, January 4. Help us start the year off right with over 120 species and maybe even a couple vagrants. Again this year the count is being organized by Harry Fuller and John Bullock. Please contact one of them if you can participate at jas@opendoor.com for John Bullock and at atowhee@gmail.com for Harry Fuller. The count dinner will once again be at Alex's on The Plaza, starting about 6pm.



Lewis's Woodpecker photo by Harry Fuller



Central Valley Bird Symposium

On November 21-24, 2013, the Central Valley Bird Club will be hosting the 17th Annual Central Valley Birding Symposium at the Stockton Hilton Hotel, in Stockton, CA.

Please come and help us kick off this year's CVBS! Come meet the CVBS board & staff members, reconnect with old friends and meet new ones! Take advantage of the delicious hors d'oeuvres buffet & No Host Bar on Thursday night. This year the Thursday night keynote is given by speakers Ed and Ed (Harper and Pandolfino) discussing trends in bird populations in the Central Valley.

Friday night's keynote program is by Kimball Garrett on Avian Invaders in California. Few areas of North America are as prone to the release and establishment of non-native bird species as California. Whether introduced purposefully or by accident, these avian immigrants include some of our most familiar bird species (think House Sparrow, European Starling and Rock Pigeon), a whole suite of additional species whose status is ever-changing, and a seemingly never-ending parade of escapees that send us running for our foreign field guides when we encounter them.

Saturday night keynote program "Birds of the Sierra Nevada" with Ted Beedy, Ed Pandolfino, and Keith Hansen! Ted, Ed, and Keith will take you on a virtual transect of the range from the oak savanna in the west, through serene conifer forests of the west side, up into the majestic alpine regions, and down the steep eastern escarpment to the pinyon/juniper woodlands and open steppes of the Great Basin. See and hear the stunning diversity of birds that make the Sierra their home and learn which birds are in decline and which are expanding and increasing. Also on Saturday, Susan Schneider will present a fascinating program "No Birdbrains Here: The Latest on Learning Instinct and Intelligence in Birds", exploring bird learning and intelligence, from everyday foraging, to learning through observing, to tool use. Dawn Garcia will share data about the secretive Northern Saw-Whet Owls in her program, "Migration Patterns of Northern Saw-Whet Owls near Forest Ranch, CA". Join Andy Engilis for an up close look at Central Valley birds at his specimen workshop.

Hands on events include Bob Steele's workshop for photographers, bird sketching with artist Keith Hansen, a carving seminar for beginners with Jim Burcio, and Beginning Birding with Jim Gain. Don't miss "Seeing Rare Birds in California: Why our state list is the largest in the US at 652 species and you can help find more" by Joe Morlan and a Flycatcher ID Workshop with Jon Dunn.

Our field trips always turn up exciting birds. Add in the always entertaining and educational Bird ID Panel, the wonderful display of art and gifts for yourself or others at the Birder's Market and the camaraderie of hundreds of like-minded folks, and you know you'll have a good time! There's something for everyone interested in birds. Come and join us to bird, learn, and just have fun! To review the line-up of speakers, workshops, and field trips or register, check out our symposium website at: www.2013cvbs.org/

UPCOMING RVAS FIELD TRIPS

Sat. September 14: Birding trip to high mountain lakes, 7:30 am to 2 pm.

Veteran birding expert and long time RVAS member Ron Ketchum will lead a field trip to the mountain lakes of the nearby Cascades where possible destinations include Howard Prairie Lake, Hyatt Lake, Little Hyatt Lake and Lily Glen Campground. Late migrat=nt warblers, early waterfowl and such montane species as Mountain quail and Mountain bluebird are possible sightings. Meet at the dirt parking lot adjacent to Shop N' Kart in Ashland at 7:30 am. Bring hats, sunscreen, drinks and snacks and appropriate footwear. Carpooling is recommended and dogs must be kept in vehicles. Group will return by early afternoon. Contact Ron at rketchum@charter.net for additional information.

Sat. September 28: Birding trip to Ruch/Cantrall Buckley Park with Ann Goff, 8 am to 2 pm. Meet at Sunshine Plaza / The Ruch Store at 8 am . Contact Anne at annegoffar@charter.net for additional details.

Sat. October 12: Birding trip with Romain Cooper around Josephine/Del Norte counties.

Meet at the O'Brien Store about eight miles south of Cave Junction at 8:15 and depart at 8:30 am. Contact Romain at romain@frontiernet.net

Check the website for updates to field trips.

ACTIVITIES IN THE ROGUE VALLEY sponsored by Ashland Parks & Recreation

Lithia Park Nature Walks - Enjoy Beautiful Lithia Park's Natural History

Ashland Parks & Recreation

340 S Pioneer St in Lithia Park, 541-488-5340, ParksInfo@ashland.or.us

www.AshlandParksandRec.org

Three days a week, rain or shine, trained volunteer naturalists from the Ashland Parks & Recreation Department lead an easy, interesting, 1.5-hour nature walk through Lithia Park. Topics include: trees, flowers, birds, climate, water, geology and the history of the park. Nature walks are free. Please meet us at the park entrance, across from the Plaza in Ashland. Walks are provided by the Ashland Parks & Recreation Department. Pre-registration is not required for the Nature Walks.

AGES	All ages welcome
DAYS	Sundays, Wednesdays & Fridays
DATES	Through September 29
TIMES	10am
PLACE	Meet at Lithia Park entrance
COST	FREE

ROGUE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

THE CHAT

Newsletter of the ROGUE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

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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

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 2013.



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 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.