

# The Chat

Number 430  
February 2017

A voice for education and conservation in the natural world

Rogue Valley Audubon Society

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

*Deadline for the March issue is February 20.*



## FEBRUARY PROGRAM MEETING

**TUESDAY, February 28 at 7:00 PM**

**"What's New with the Oregon Conservation Strategy"**

**Presented by STEVE NIEMELA**

The Oregon Conservation Strategy is an overarching plan to conserve Oregon's fish and wildlife, and their habitats. It combines the best available science and conservation priorities with recommended voluntary actions and tools, which enable all Oregonians to define their own conservation role. Steve Niemela's presentation will introduce the newly revised Oregon Conservation Strategy and discuss the important role of conservation groups and citizen scientists in the conservation of SW Oregon's wildlife species and habitats.

Steve Niemela is a wildlife biologist with ODFW working to implement the Oregon Conservation Strategy in SW Oregon. Steve has a BS in Wildlife Management from Michigan State University and an MS from New Mexico State University. He has spent the last 10 years working as a wildlife biologist for ODFW in the Rogue Valley.



**\*\*Chapter meetings are held at 1801 E. Jackson Street in Medford\*\*  
Lidgate Hall, Medford Congregational Church**

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[RogueValleyAudubonSociety/](https://www.facebook.com/RogueValleyAudubonSociety/)

**Chapter Program meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, September through April, at 7:00 pm. Meetings take place at 1801 E. Jackson St., Medford, in Lidgate Hall of the Medford Congregational Church.**

## Letter from the Board

### Introducing New Board Members!

We've already mentioned that George Peterson has agreed to replace Gary Palmer as our Membership Chairman. What we haven't mentioned is that, after attending a couple of Board meetings as Membership Chair, he also agreed to be a member of the Board. Most of you know George as an expert bird photographer. It's always amazing to see him use his camera instead of binoculars and get a picture at least as quickly as the rest of us get our binoculars on a bird!

Nate Trimble, who contracted last year with the Board to do our Birding in the Schools program (and got rave reviews from teachers) is our newest Board member. Nate moved to the Rogue Valley about a year and a half ago while he was finishing his Master's degree in Wildlife Ecology from Texas State University, with a specialty in birds. Nate really enjoyed leading the birding field trips for the school children last year, and he will be leading beginning monthly field trips for RVAS soon—stay posted. Nate has also agreed to take over the Field Trip Coordinator position from Russ Namitz in September, once he returns from conducting a survey of Black-Backed Woodpeckers in Northern California.

We're really happy to have both George and Nate join the Board.

### Holiday Party Re-cap

Thanks again to everyone who participated in the annual Holiday Party. In addition to learning about the Fall in the Field Program from Katie Boehnlein's presentation, enjoying great food, and being entertained by The Warblers and Jim Livaudais' wonderful bird pictures, the auction of donated items conducted by Pepper Trail brought in \$2,948—almost double our goal of \$1,500. We will be able to continue supporting the SOU Fall in The Field program as well as our Birding in the Schools internships. Thank you all for being so generous!

Linda Kreisman

*Letter from the Board continued on page 3*

*Letter from the Board continued from page 2*

### **Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Expansion**

Good news! The ecological wonders of the Cascade-Siskiyou have been protected through a National Monument expansion! President Obama heard from tens of thousands of U.S. citizens in favor of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument expansion. The community, joined by Tribes, elected officials, scientists, business owners, community groups, landowners, and the Rogue Valley Audubon Society included, called to safeguard a beloved landscape, and were heard by elected officials in D.C. Thank you, RVAS members, for speaking up and supporting this effort!

The Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument is the first and only national monument explicitly designated to protect an area of outstanding biological diversity. At the spectacular collision of the Cascade and Siskiyou Mountains lies a region of transition, contrast and renowned biodiversity. The region provides vital connectivity between the Cascade Mountains, the Siskiyou Mountains, the Coast Ranges of Oregon and California, the high deserts of eastern Oregon, and the interior valleys of southern Oregon and northern California. In essence, the Cascade-Siskiyou region ties together the major plant communities and ecoregions of the west. The mountains are an intriguing mosaic of grasslands, oak woodlands, juniper scrub, chaparral, dry pine forests, moist fir forests, meadows, glades, wetlands, springs and volcanic rock outcrops.

Unfortunately, the expanded monument is already under threat. Representatives Greg Walden (OR) and Rob Bishop (UT) have said they are working to undo the monument expansion. They don't realize that there is strong support from the communities nearest to the monument for this beloved landscape. The mayors of Ashland and Talent, local businesses, and many of those who live inside the monument have all expressed strong support. Under the new administration, we expect to see further threats to conservation protections, and encourage everyone to take measures to stand up for wildlife by speaking up and staying connected in the local conservation community.

Read more about the newly expanded CSNM in Pepper Trail's Conservation Column on page 8.

Jeanine Moy

### **REMINDER: Parking Permits and the Habitat Conservation Stamp**

A parking permit is required at Denman Wildlife Area parking lots. For \$20, birders can purchase a **Habitat Conservation Stamp**, which includes a parking permit, through ODF&W and at Bi-Mart and other local sporting goods stores. OSP does check for permits, though "first offenders" usually get a warning citation. Besides that, it is VERY IMPORTANT for birders to support these areas—now more than ever. While you are at it, pick up a **Jackson County parking permit** for those birds like the Red-naped Sapsucker at Emigrant or visits to Agate Lake and even Tou Velle State Recreation Area.

Thanks to Frank Lospalluto for this reminder!

## RVAS BIRDING FIELD TRIPS AND EVENTS

### FIRST WEDNESDAY BIRD WALKS AT AGATE LAKE

Murray Orr will continue to lead his monthly bird walks at Agate Lake in 2017. These walks take place on the first Wednesday of each month. In this ongoing citizen science project, the numbers of different species observed by walk participants are entered in the Cornell Ornithological Laboratory's eBird database. Birders wishing to join Murray should meet him at the picnic area off Dry Creek Road on the east side of the lake. Walks begin at 8:30 and end before noon.

See map at [www.roguevalleyaudubon.org/First\\_Wednesday\\_Count.html](http://www.roguevalleyaudubon.org/First_Wednesday_Count.html)

February Walk: Wednesday, February 1

March Walk: Wednesday, March 1

April Walk: Wednesday, April 5

### BIRDING THE KLAMATH BASIN

Saturday, March 11

Leader: Dick Ashford

The Klamath Basin is a premier birding destination known for its wintering populations of waterfowl and raptors, which can make for a wonderful birding spectacle. Enjoy a day in the field with leader Dick Ashford, who will have scouted the area several times prior to our outing, and will know where to look for the birds. We'll focus on raptors and waterfowl (hopefully in large numbers), and we will have fun. No whiners!

Important note: This trip is limited to no more than 19 participants. For safety reasons, we will carpool in five vehicles (four people per car). It will be an all-day outing, departing Ashland at 8:00 am and returning around 5:00-ish. RSVP to Dick Ashford [dicka@ashlandhome.net](mailto:dicka@ashlandhome.net), who will notify attendees of meeting time and place.

### MORE SPRING FIELD TRIPS—DETAILS TO COME!

#### ROGUE RIVER PRESERVE

Saturday, April 22

Leader: Pepper Trail

#### GIVEN RANCH PARK

Saturday, May 13

Leader: Howard Sands

Peter Kreisman photographed  
this Wilson's Snipe in late  
December.





## Successful Ashland CBC Enjoyed by Energetic Birders

By Carol Mockridge

Yes, it was cold and foggy in some of the areas, especially in the morning, but overall, the weather on Dec. 29, 2016 was better than the last two years. Teams worked hard to record 115 species, which is the third highest count since the Ashland count resumed in 2010. A lower-than-average total for individuals of 10,035 was reported.

This year, Dick Ashford's Area One team spotted the greatest number of birds at 2,054. Rock Pigeons (130), Western Bluebirds (123), European Starlings (302), Golden-crowned Sparrows (220), and Brewer's Blackbirds (287) topped their list. They also reported the only White-tailed Kite and Prairie Falcon. John Alexander and team, birding Area Two around Billings Ranch, recorded the highest number of species again this year. Their count was 59 and included the only Northern Pintail, Lesser Scaup, American Coots and Redhead.

The team in Area Three, led by Bob Hunter, found the only Pied-billed Grebe at Ashland Pond. Norm Barrett and his Area Four team recorded the only Rough-legged Hawk and Marsh Wren around North Mountain Park. Absent this year was the rare Swamp Sparrow that's usually seen at the park's bird feeders.

Brandon Breen, the leader of Area Five, reported the Western Screech Owl sleeping in the box on Granite St. This was very lucky since he hasn't been seen there much for the last several months. Brandon's team also saw the only Bushtits. The greatest number of American Robins, (181) were seen by Nala Cardillo's Area 6 team south of Siskiyou Boulevard. Area Seven, led by Peter and Linda Kreisman, spotted the only Mountain Quail, Northern Mockingbird, Yellow-rumped Warblers and Say's Phoebe. They also added the Bohemian Waxwing as a count week species.



George Peterson captured this Red-naped Sapsucker while participating in the Ashland CBC.

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Area 8, which includes Emigrant Lake, had the second highest total count at 1,195. This team bagged the only Rock Wren, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Western Grebe, Snow Goose and the rare Red-naped Sapsucker. They also added the Eared Grebe as a count week species. Russ Namitz, Area 9 leader, headed up to the Cascades and found the only Common Goldeneye and Mountain Chickadees. And Frank Lospalluto scouted Area 10 many miles on snow shoes, on Mt. Ashland and Coe Valley to find the day's only Northern Goshawk, Northern Pygmy-Owl, White-headed Woodpecker and Hutton's Vireo.

Notable misses for the Ashland CBC this year were Greater White-fronted Goose, Eurasian Wigeon, Ring-necked Pheasant, Swamp Sparrow and Red Crossbill.

Coordinators Carol Mockridge and John Bullock wish to thank the area leaders and the 55 participants. A special shout-out goes to El Tapatio Restaurant for the great food and service at our wrap-up dinner.

Two of the birds found by the Area 8 team include this Rock Wren and Eared Grebe. Photos by George Peterson.



## Medford CBC Round-up

By Bob Hunter

The Medford Christmas Bird Count was held on Saturday, December 17. It was a clear and cold day, and we had 60 participants and 17 parties in the field. There were 121 species sighted on count day; an Orange-crowned Warbler also seen during count week brought the total up to 122 species. In addition, 48,147 individual birds were counted. This year we had count highs of Western Grebe (11); Great Egret (78) (the previous high was 29); Golden Eagle (13); Ferruginous Hawk (4) (this tied the previous high); Dunlin (49); Wilson's Snipe (87); and Prairie Falcon (11).

Some of the high points were one Bohemian Waxwing, which has only been seen in five previous counts, and one Great-tailed Grackle, which has only been seen in one previous count—last year's, when eight birds were spotted in one location. Only two Pine Siskins were seen this year. On the other end of the spectrum, American Robins beat out the European Starlings for highest number: 15,263 to 12,912.

Thanks to everyone who participated and have a great birding new year!



Greg Skoog caught this Kestrel in mid-air (above), and Peter Kreisman captured these Sandhill Cranes in flight.





## The Conservation Column

By Pepper Trail

I write this on the last day of Barack Obama's eight years as President. He did not come into office known as a conservationist, but he leaves with a record of extraordinary initiative and achievement, especially with regard to climate change and public lands protection. He designated over **550 MILLION acres** of public lands as national monuments, and led the world to achieve the Paris Climate Accords and to put in place the Clean Power Plan to reduce American dependence on fossil fuels.

All of this is under threat from the next president. I expect that I will devote many future Conservation Columns to bad news coming from the new Administration. We must all be ready to work hard to defend our existing environmental laws over the next four years. But, for this Conservation Column, I choose to celebrate a wonderful victory right here in our region, the result of long and sustained effort by many groups, including the Rogue Valley Audubon Society.

### Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Expansion Protects an Oregon Treasure

*"...the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument is an ecological wonder, with biological diversity unmatched in the Cascade Range...a biological crossroads – the interface of the Cascade, Klamath, and Siskiyou ecoregions, in an area of unique geology, biology, climate, and topography."*

From the June 9, 2000, Proclamation  
establishing the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

The establishment of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument by President Bill Clinton was a landmark in protecting our state's extraordinary wealth of habitats and species. The Monument's original boundaries, however, enclosed less than 53,000 acres of public land, and were arbitrarily truncated at a non-biological line: the Oregon-California border. In the years since, the remarkably diverse landscape the monument was established to protect has faced mounting threats from encroaching development and climate change. The climate change threat is particularly serious, given well-documented regional trends for reduced snowpack, higher summer temperatures, and more frequent fires.

Since 2010, a diverse group of biologists, including ecologists, botanists, and experts in fish, mammals, and birds, have discussed whether the monument area is adequate to protect it from these threats. I'm proud to have represented RVAS in this process. Our discussions culminated in a letter signed by 85 scientists in 2015 that concluded "...it is our professional opinion that expansion of the Monument is necessary for the area's extraordinary values to be sustained over the long term."

While over 13,000 acres of in-holdings had been added to the Monument through public acquisition from willing sellers since 2000, external expansion beyond the original outer boundaries was clearly needed.

The expansions that we recommended increased the Monument's elevation range and topographic diversity. These sites and their surrounding landscapes filled protection gaps for Jenny Creek and other vital watersheds, including lower reaches flowing into the Klamath River in California.

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*Conservation Column continued from page 8*

And they reached out to enclose populations of species at their range limits, critical “first responders” to climate change. Birds that fall into this category include Rufous Hummingbirds, Cassin’s Finches, White-headed Woodpeckers, Chestnut-backed Chickadees, Black-billed Magpies, and California Thrashers. The ecological variety of these species testifies to the extraordinary diversity of habitats protected within the Monument.

The scientists’ recommendations formed the basis of a concerted grassroots effort by local citizens to gather support for Monument expansion, attracting endorsements from the two closest towns to the Monument, local state legislators in whose district the original monument was established, the Klamath Tribes, Oregon’s Governor, both our U.S. Senators, and more. Four regional public hearings were held last fall, providing opportunities for citizen input. While a diversity of opinion was expressed, the total number of speakers supporting monument expansion outnumbered opponents for all meetings combined.

All these efforts came to fruition on January 12, 2017, when President Obama expanded the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, using his authority under the Antiquities Act, adding almost 48,000 acres of already federal public land to make a now 114,000-acre monument. Not all of the scientists’ recommendations were included—some important higher elevation landscape connectivity and climate refugia areas were left out, mostly to the north and east of Howard Prairie. Nevertheless, the Monument expansion greatly enhances the ecological integrity of this unique biological crossroads, and increases its resilience in the face of climate change. A map of the expanded Monument can be seen here: <https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/documents/files/orcsnmmmap.pdf>.

All Oregonians owe a debt of gratitude to President Obama, and to Senators Wyden and Merkley, for their leadership—and to Governor Brown for her support—in protecting one of Oregon’s great biological treasures for future generations.

## **Needed: Your Input on Condor Restoration Plan**

By Juliet Grable

Through a collaborative partnership, the Yurok Tribe, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are soliciting public input for a plan that would re-introduce the magnificent California Condor to Northern California. The plan calls for the establishment of a restoration program centered at Redwood National Park, which is within Yurok Ancestral Territory. This project furthers the goal of returning the condor into its historical range by expanding the geographic scope of recovery efforts already in progress.

The California Condor once ranged from Baja to British Columbia. Overhunting, lead poisoning and other environmental toxins—in particular, DDT, which bioaccumulated in tissues and resulted in the thinning of condor eggshells—brought the population to the brink of extinction in the 1980s. A captive breeding program has proven successful, and today populations are established in southern California and the desert Southwest.

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### *Conservation Column continued from page 9*

For the last decade, the Yurok Tribe has spearheaded efforts to reintroduce condors in the Pacific Northwest, a region that North America's largest bird has not occupied in more than a century. The Yurok are spiritually and culturally tied to the condor. According to tradition, Condor is one of the first peoples of the world, and has been part of Yurok ceremonies since their creation. Reintroducing a new population of condors into the biologically diverse ecosystem in Redwood National Park and the surrounding area has a very real potential to aid in the species' long-term recovery, and to heal and restore the Yurok tribe's spiritual, ecological and cultural relationships with their land.

The Bald Hills location in Redwood National Park was selected because of its superior habitat characteristics, including the availability of nest cavity sites. Condors range widely, and there is abundant habitat surrounding the park, as well.

The new population will face challenges; in particular, lead toxicity, caused by carcasses contaminated with lead ammunition, has slowed the condor's recovery elsewhere. Consequently, hunter education has been and will be an important part of the restoration effort. Other issues include ingestion of "micro-trash" and pesticides associated with marijuana grow sites.

At present, the project is in the Public Scoping process. This spring and summer, the partners will develop Alternatives and prepare an official Environmental Assessment (EA). There will be another opportunity to comment on the EA once it is complete.

As of now, the three alternatives are as follows:

- No Action (i.e., do nothing to restore condors in Northern California)
- Establish an "Experimental Population" headquartered at Redwood National Park
- Establish a new population headquartered at Redwood National Park, but do not designate it as an Experimental Population

The proposed boundaries for the new population include Northern California and all of Oregon. The Experimental Population designation is a more flexible option, as birds within the boundary of an Experimental Population are considered Threatened, rather than Endangered. This allows agencies to reduce the legal protections required by the ESA, protecting individuals, municipalities, and others who may accidentally harm the condor while engaged in otherwise lawful activities.

As part of the Public Scoping process, the partners have hosted several meetings to gather public input. The Scoping period ends on February 28. Even if you were not able to attend a meeting, your comments are valuable and needed! Please write and express your support for the establishment of a population of California condors in the Pacific Northwest. This expanded population will provide a key link and stability to the California, Utah and Arizona condor populations and return a vital cultural link to the Yurok people.

Your comments may be submitted via email (see web link below) or mailed to the following address:

Redwood National and State Parks  
Attn: California Condor Restoration Plan/EA  
1111 Second Street  
Crescent City, CA 95531

To learn more about this exciting project, visit <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/RedwoodCondor>

## It's Back: Birdathon 2017

### Birdathon is...

- a) a chance to celebrate Southern Oregon's spring migration in the company of other birders
- b) a competitive sport
- c) an **important fundraiser** for the Rogue Valley Audubon Society
- d) all of the above

**Birdathon returns on Saturday, May 6.** If you've never participated in this annual event, why not make 2017 your year? The object of Birdathon is for sponsored teams to count as many species as possible within a 24-hour period. Teams can range widely or stick close to home, so long as they stay in Jackson County. In a nutshell, here's how it works:

**Form teams.** Call your best birding buddies, or recruit a newbie. Most teams include two to five birders, although a single individual may also comprise a team.

**Find sponsors.** A person can sponsor your team with either a fixed donation or an amount per species your team sees.

**Count species.** The **event officially begins on Friday, May 5 at 6:00 pm** and ends 24 hours later, but you count species any time within that window.

**Celebrate!** Join the other teams at Jackson Creek Pizza, at 317 E. Main, Medford, Saturday evening for tale-swapping, prizes and mild bragging.

Birdathon 2016 featured eight stellar teams: the Binosaurs, the Falcons, the Great Gray Owls, the Old World Warblers, the Outlaw Biker, the Professional Amateurs, the Wandering Tattlers, and the We Just Want to Have Fun! Collectively these teams raised over **\$2818 for RVAS**, with the **top fundraising team raising \$1454!** There were 185 total species seen or heard in the 24 hour period, with the Binosaurs being the winning team, coming in with 159 of those. The Great Grays were second with 152; and Falcons were third with 147 species. Other team totals were 109, 86, 81, 65, and 58.

### FAQs

**What if I'm not an experienced birder?** The fierce competition among the "hard-core" teams is legendary, but you need not be an elite birder to participate in Birdathon. In fact, your ability to find sponsors is just as important as your ability to identify warblers.

**How do I find a team?** Give us a call or drop us an email and we'll help match you with a team.

**Can my family be a team?** Yes! We want to encourage kids and families to participate in Birdathon. And remember, you can choose any length of time, whether all day, half a day, or an hour.

**I don't want to get my boots muddy, but I'd still like to contribute.** Consider sponsoring a team or sending in a donation. Look for donation forms in the April issue of The Chat, and at upcoming Chapter meetings.

**I still don't get it.** Look for more details in upcoming issues of The Chat. If you have a burning question, feel free to contact Katy Reed at [kmreed24@hotmail.com](mailto:kmreed24@hotmail.com) or [541-245-5095](tel:541-245-5095) or Linda Kreisman at [651-303-6671](tel:651-303-6671).

## Bird-Centric Events from Around the Region

### PRESENTATIONS AT WILD BIRDS UNLIMITED

#### **Bird Banding, the How and the Why**

As the Banding Project Leader for Klamath Bird Observatory, Research Biologist Robert Frey manages KBO's network of long-term banding stations and the banding training program. Bob will discuss how birds are banded, the importance of bird banding, the information we gain from banding, and how that information is used.

**DATE/TIME:** February 22, 2017 6:00—7:00 pm

**PLACE:** 961 Medford Center, Medford

**PRESENTER Robert Frey** joined Klamath Bird Observatory in 2003 as a Staff Biologist. He has banded birds and trained bird banders throughout the Americas since 1993.

### ASHLAND PARKS AND RECREATION CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

#### **Project FeederWatch**

Help count birds that visit the feeders at North Mountain Park while learning to identify species with expert guidance. This is a great opportunity for all-level birders to get acquainted with local birds and mingle with other birders under a covered pavilion. The information collected will be submitted to Cornell University's FeederWatch project, a nationwide bird-monitoring effort. Pre-registration is not required for this free program. For more information, call

**DATE:** Saturdays February 4, 18 | March 4, 18

**TIME:** 9:00—10:00 am

**PLACE:** North Mountain Park Pavilion, Ashland

**COST:** Free (Pre-registration is not required)

**INSTRUCTORS:** Rogue Valley Audubon Society Volunteers

### 2017 WINTER WINGS FESTIVAL—KLAMATH FALLS

#### **February 16—19**

This annual festival is packed with field trips, workshops, presentations, and distinguished keynotes. Field trips led by expert birders and photographers will enable you to experience the region's diverse and abundant bird life up close. This year's speakers include owl expert Paul Bannick, photographer Chas Glatzer and snowy owl researcher Scott Weidensaul. Karl Anderson, aka The Oregon Birdman, will also be on hand to entertain and delight. Many events begin at Oregon Tech campus; others launch at the Running Y Resort, Favel Museum, and the Tule Lake Refuge headquarters. Preregistration is required! For more information and to register, visit

**[www.winterwingsfest.org](http://www.winterwingsfest.org)**

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*Bird-Centric Events continued from page 12*

## **KBO TALK AND WALK PROGRAM**

### **Birding the Klamath Basin: Talk**

This talk will feature 4 short DVDs that highlight the birds and landscape of the Klamath Basin Wildlife Refuge through the four seasons. A fifth DVD will be added to show the powerful beauty of the Great Gray Owl. Guidelines for photographing birds and other wildlife will be presented along with the ethics of bird photography. Mel Clements will discuss how to get the best photos and disturb the birds the least.

To reserve your spot, contact Shannon Rio at [shannonrio@aol.com](mailto:shannonrio@aol.com).

**DATE/TIME:** Thursday, February 16th, 6:30 - 8:00 pm

**PLACE:** KBO Headquarters 320 Beach St. Ashland OR

**COST:** \$30 (Talk and Walk); \$15 (Talk only)

**INSTRUCTORS:** Mel Clements and Frank Lospalluto

### **Birding the Klamath Basin: Walk**

We will follow up our Thursday talk with an excursion to the Klamath Basin. To sign up or if you have questions, contact [shannonrio@aol.com](mailto:shannonrio@aol.com). Carpooling (taking the fewest cars) is requested for the safety of the outing and ensures everyone sees the most birds.

**DATE/TIME:** Saturday, February 18, 7:30am – 6:30pm

**PLACE:** TBD (see website for map and details)

**COST:** \$30 (includes Talk and Walk)

**INSTRUCTORS:** Mel Clements and Frank Lospalluto

## **KBO SPECIAL EVENT: AN EVENING WITH OWL PHOTOGRAPHER PAUL BANNICK**

**DATE/TIME:** Saturday, February 25, 7:00pm – 8:30pm

**PLACE:** Gresham Room, Ashland Library, 410 Siskiyou Blvd.

**COST:** \$25 donation

Paul Bannick, nature photographer and author of *The Owl and the Woodpecker* will be presenting his wonderful owl slides and new book, *OWL: A Year in the Life of North American Owls*. Bannick uses his intimate and dramatic images to follow North American owls in their distinct habitats through the course of one year. Readers follow along as each stage in an owl's life is chronicled: courtship, mating, and nesting in spring; fledging and feeding of young in summer; dispersal and gaining independence in fall; and, finally, winter's migrations and competitions for food.

For owls, every day brings a new challenge to survive, and this book shows readers how owls use the unique resources available to them in their habitat to face those challenges. All 19 species found in Canada and the United States are featured in photos and narrative throughout the book, with a special focus on the Northern Pygmy-Owl, Great Gray Owl, Burrowing Owl and Snowy Owl.

Reserve your space by calling KBO at **(541) 201-0866**.

## Rogue Valley Audubon Society Membership

If you are not an RVAS Member, we invite you to help support our local activities by becoming a member. We hope you're aware of the many activities of the Audubon Society, both locally and nationally, that help to further the cause of bird conservation and public education in southern Oregon. Member dues, along with donations and income from local fund-raising events, support our activities and programs, such as:

Educational and social membership meetings (free and open to members and the public)

*The Chat* newsletter

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

Birding forum for posting sightings and active locations

Monthly field trips and bird walks

Educational programs for students and adults

Monitoring of regional conservation issues

Work with local wildlife managers to improve access and bird habitats

Bird counts for national species censuses

Support for local research projects

A one-year family membership costs \$20. To become an RVAS member, please complete the form below and send with your check for \$20.

### RVAS Membership Form

Please fill in your information:

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Rogue Valley Audubon Society will not share your information with any other organization.

- ☐ *Include my email on the RVAS list for notification of activities and posting of *The Chat* newsletter.*
- ☐ *Do not send a paper copy of *The Chat* newsletter.*
- ☐ *Send a monthly paper copy of *The Chat* newsletter.*

### Donation

- ☐ *I am enclosing an additional donation of \$ \_\_\_\_.*
- ☐ *I wish my donation to be anonymous.*

Please mail this form with your \$20 check payable to Rogue Valley Audubon Society, along with any additional contribution you wish to make, to:

**Rogue Valley Audubon Society**  
**PO Box 8597**  
**Medford OR 97501**

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Ashland, OR 97520 [drescheral@aol.com](mailto:drescheral@aol.com)  
[www.ashlandoregonlawyer.com](http://www.ashlandoregonlawyer.com)

**Thanks to everyone who  
has contributed their  
wonderful bird photos.  
Keep them coming!**

**—The Editor**

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## THE CHAT

Newsletter of the  
**ROGUE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
Post Office Box 8597  
Medford, OR 97501

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



### 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. 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.

