



Pine Siskin

# The Siskin

Newsletter of Siskiyou Audubon Society, Josephine County, Oregon

Siskiyou Audubon Society meets on the second Thursday each month from September through May, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Room 406 at Grants Pass High School, 830 NE 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Grants Pass. Room 406 is in the northernmost building on campus. Enter the parking lot from either 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> Streets. In December we hold a holiday Potluck Dinner, and in June a Potluck Picnic. Coffee and refreshments are served at our informal meetings – *please bring your own cup*.

We hope to see you there!

## Chapter Meeting, Thursday, September 10, 2015 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Summer break is over, it's time to kick off a new season of Audubon back in Room 406 at Grants Pass High School. From 6 p.m. to about 6:45, we'll talk birds, socialize and snack. Then we'll learn something from our

### Program: The Spotted Owl by Zia Fukuda

Zia Fukuda grew up in the Klamath Basin and currently lives in Grants Pass, Oregon. She graduated from Oregon State University in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in Fish and Wildlife, and emphasis on wildlife ecology conservation. She has worked for both the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service for the last 8 years as a wildlife technician, working primarily with northern spotted owls. She has also done work with other owls and raptor species, as well as a stint working with sea otters in Big Sur, California. She has become very passionate about spotted owls since beginning her work with them in 2007 and is now one of the certified banders with the BLM.

Zia's presentation will cover the management history of the owls, what field biologists do when monitoring their populations, and what's next for the owls – what threats the species currently faces here in Southern Oregon.



Zia Fukuda  
with a Spotted Owl

## In the Morning, Before the Chapter Meeting, Come Help Make Kits for Nest Boxes – Thursday, September 10, 2015 9:00 a.m. to about 2:00 p.m.

Siskiyou Audubon Society has committed to holding Kids' Nest Box Building at the "Saturday Parkways Festival" put on by the City of Grants Pass on 26 September. We ran out of prepared kits during the Pottsville Antique Tractor Festival in June, so we have to cut more wood, pre-drill holes, and assemble more kits for "Saturday Parkways" and any other events we book this fall.

We'll need folks to carry wood, operate saws, sanders and drills, and someone to assemble and count kits as they are made. We'll start early so as to finish before the heat of the day becomes intense. If you can come to help, please call Phil or Marsha Hicks at 541-474-4457, or e-mail as per the Directory on Page 7. We'll finish in plenty of time to get ready for the Chapter Meeting at 6 p.m.

## Fall North American Migration Count Saturday, September 19, 2015

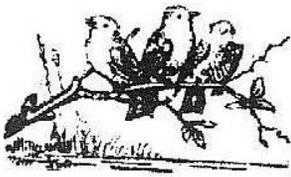
We no longer have a local coordinator for this annual citizen-science project, but counts still can be taken, then entered into e-Bird. The count is unlimited in Josephine County – one can count anywhere in the County. By entering the data into e-Bird, it will be coordinated with counts from across the country.

## Next Chapter Meeting - October 8, 2015 Watch the next issue of 'The Siskin' for program details.

### Our Mission . . .

is to promote the welfare of birds and other wildlife through habitat enhancement and education. Our primary focus is on our local community, our local schools, and issues of the Pacific Northwest.





## Chapter News

Greetings Audubon Society members and friends, and welcome to the 33<sup>rd</sup> season of Siskiyou Audubon Society, the Josephine County Chapter of National Audubon Society. Our season begins in September and ends with a Potluck Picnic in June. Chapter Meetings are held on the second Thursday every month from September through May, except in December when we have a Christmas Potluck Dinner. Our fiscal year is from July 1 through June 30 each year, to correspond with that of National Audubon. We re-certify as an Independent Chapter of Audubon through our annual report submitted each November.

Our officers and directors meet monthly at the Board of Directors meeting, lately held at 1 p.m. on a day selected by the Board. The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, September 15, at the home of Phil & Marsha Hicks. Society officers and directors are listed in the Directory on page 7 of this newsletter.

All of this is probably familiar to you as loyal members of Siskiyou Audubon Society. However, we are undergoing changes. **President Susan Bush has a new e-mail address: [pinesandstars@gmail.com](mailto:pinesandstars@gmail.com).** Two of our long-time volunteers have retired from their tasks – Dennis Vroman retired as compiler/coordinator of the Christmas Bird Count and of the fall and spring North American Migration Counts. The fate of the migration counts is up in the air, but the Christmas Bird Count work will be taken on by the Society until a new Compiler is found. At present a committee including Margaret James and, probably, Zia Fukuda will carry out the duties. – Fran Taylor has retired from our Market Booth to Grants Pass Growers’ Market on weekends March to June. We will still hold Kids’ Nest Box Building Days at least twice at GPGM, but we’ll no longer have a regular booth at the market, unless someone else would like to take it on. Given that we will not have regular weekly income from sales, we need to find another way to raise funds for the Society, as well as to serve our mission. So, Members, all ideas are welcome. Phone or e-mail any Board member if you can volunteer, or with your suggestions.

In June we held Kids’ Nest Box Building (“KNBB”) for the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Class at Ashland Middle School – 180 kits were made into birdhouses by 180 teenagers. Our team of experienced nest box builders educated the kids about cavity-nesting birds as well as about making a useful object. During the Antique Tractor Festival at Pottsville on Father’s Day Weekend, we ran out of kits after 148 had been built. More kits were prepared so that Lee W. and Dwain S. could hold KNBB at Shady Cove Library. Meanwhile, Fran T. led educator Susan Hunt’s small child class on a bird walk in Reinhart Volunteer park. The kids, aged 5 and 7, were fascinated to see pigeons up close, at the pedestrian bridge. And Treasurer Phil Hicks paid our Post Office Box renewal fee, and filed our federal and state tax information returns, re-certifying our status as a Non-Profit Organization and paying our fees.

Also over the summer we received a grant of \$1,000 from the Four Way Community Foundation in June, to pay for lumber and nails for our KNBB events. Thank you to Margaret Bradford and the Four Way Community Foundation for their generous support of our education through hands-on building program. Thanks, too, to Lee Webb and Phil Hicks for doing all the background work to make it possible for KNBB. Opportunities to make more kits and to supervise more kids as they build their own bird house will be coming up.

As we move into fall, be alert to the seasonal changes in the birds. It’s time to clean out and repair nest boxes, so they’ll be ready. Be sure to get outside with your binoculars and watch the birds! Then come to a meeting so we can share the birds we have seen.

### Fall Nest Box Clean-out Season

September is here and it’s time to clean out the birdhouses that were used for breeding last spring. Anytime between now and next February is a good time to clean the boxes. Take out and burn or compost the old nests, scrape the insides of the boxes, and make any necessary repairs. The birds will appreciate having a clean nest box for refuge on a cold winter night, as well as to provide secure nesting next year.



### Pop Quiz

~ John & Joy Taylor

Hint #1	One of the largest birds in North America, breeds on lakes throughout the northern Great Plains and mountain west. Locally, common at Agate Lake.
Hint #2	Forages mainly on fish in shallow wetlands; crayfish, tadpoles and salamanders. Researchers have found regurgitated fish hooks and lures in their colonies, suggesting that these birds also take injured game fish.
Hint #3	Makes nests in colonies on islands that aren’t subject to regular flooding. The eggs are typically laid on bare gravel, sand, or soil with little vegetation.
Hint #4	Flies gracefully, either singly, in flight formations, or in flocks soaring on thermals.
Hint #5	They are skilled swimmers and often hunt for food in groups in shallow water.
Hint #6	Several of these birds may fish cooperatively, moving into a circle to concentrate fish, and then dipping their heads underwater simultaneously to catch fish.
Hint #7	Scientific Name: <i>Xxxcanus erythrorhynchos</i> (the first part would give the ID away.)

Answer on Page 6

## Siskiyou Audubon Society Kids' Nest Box Building

Saturday, September 26, 2015 – 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### 'Saturday Parkways' Block Party at Gilbert Creek Park

The whole city of Grants Pass is invited to what likely will be the biggest block party of the year on Sept. 26. The celebration is called 'Saturday Parkways,' and will feature events ranging from a movie, live music, a tennis clinic, gymnastics and archery demonstrations and much more. Siskiyou Audubon Society will host Kids' Nest Box Building, as well as sell our birdhouses and feeders, and provide handouts for folks curious about birds, and wildlife and habitat conservation.

The day of activity will begin with a 5K run or walk that will start from Gilbert Creek Park at 9 a.m. This chip-timed 5K is a fund-raiser for the YMCA Scholarship Fund. Sponsored by Evergreen Bank and the City of Grants Pass this event also includes a Kid's Fun Run with Obstacle Course. Cost is \$15 before Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>; late registration is \$20. Runners in all age groups are welcome. For information about the run, call the recreation office at 541-471-6435 or the Grants Pass Family YMCA at 541-474-0001.

The party will get underway at 11 a.m., and then, when the booths close at 3 p.m., the live music will start. Afterward, as dusk settles over the park, the bands will pack up in time for a movie on a large screen in Gilbert Creek Park.

**Siskiyou Audubon Society members, please volunteer to help** with the nest box building. Phone Lee Webb at 541-479-6859 or Fran Taylor at 541-955-2934 to sign up for an hour or two, or the whole day! We will have kits and hammers and drills, we just need helpers to supervise the children as they build their own birdhouse.

### Camp EEK! 2015

Wildlife Images Rehabilitation & Education Center is located at 11845 Lower River Road, about 12 miles west of Grants Pass, and 3.5 miles southwest of Merlin, Oregon. Summer Vacation Camp EEK! is an annual day camp for kids between the ages of 7-12, in which the kids are immersed in outdoor activities at the center – from insect safaris to birding hikes. Games, crafts and all manner of fun activities are packed into the camps. Each summer five different themed weeks of camp are organized so kids can come one time or multiple weeks, for a different experience each time.

During Camp EEK! in 2015, Siskiyou Audubon Society's John and Joy Taylor again presented "Duckumentary" to the kids. After camp, Marilyn Campbell wrote to the Taylors to say, "Just wanted to share a quick note re: your presentation. At the end of each day at camp the kids get a chance to tell me what they liked best about camp that day – we call it Roses, Buds and Thorns (Roses being the best part of the day, buds would be something they'd like to do again at camp and thorns, well, that would obviously be what they liked least). Your duckumentary got 2 roses and a bud – a very successful report I would say! After you left we went to our pond and fed the ducks. The kids referred to the video and identified several dabblers. I love it when they retain and apply what they have learned! Thanks so much for the time you share with us."

Our final program for the kids was the best one ever. There were about 25 kids (and try keeping all of them quiet for 40 minutes). Well, that's what happened when we showed "A Spy in the Huddle," a story about robot-cams milling about in the lives of three different penguins – Emperors of the Antarctic, Rock Hoppers and Magellanics – each with a story told by a narrator.

The future will spell more fun for the kids. We expect to add shows and presenters, so that Siskiyou Audubon Society can expound on our mission of conservation through education about birds and other wildlife and their habitat.

*~John & Joy Taylor*



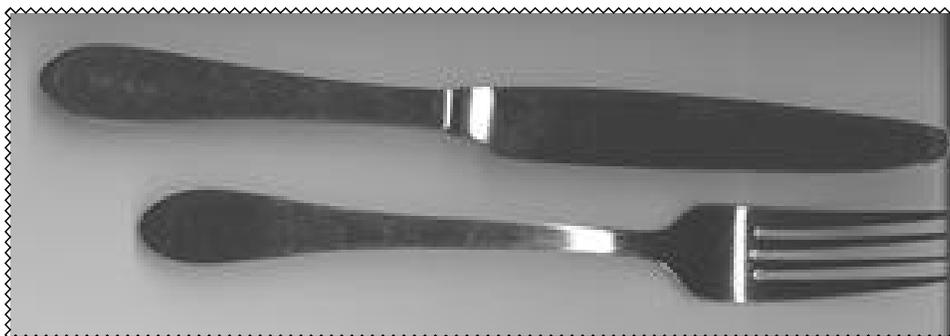
Grants Pass 'Saturday Parkways' festival centered at Gilbert Creek Park on Hawthorne Avenue between Morgan Lane and Lynel Court.



Magellanic Penguin on the Valdes Peninsula – Wikipedia photo



Joy & John Taylor



Do you feel like your cutlery supply is a little short? This knife and fork were left behind at one of our pot luck dinners, and have wound up in Fran Taylor's cutlery drawer. If you recognize these, let Fran know. She'll be glad to return them and clear her own cluttered cutlery drawer. 541-955-2934.



## Events, Field Trips, Festivals, . . .

### 29<sup>th</sup> Annual OR Shorebird Festival Friday – Sunday, September 4 - 6, 2015 Festival Headquarters:

#### The Oregon Institute of Marine Biology

The 29<sup>th</sup> annual Oregon Shorebird Festival features a full weekend of activities for birders of all skill levels. The festival is headquartered at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, 63566 Boat Basin Road, Charleston, Oregon. Activities include land-based field trips to Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, New River and the Coos Bay area, as well as two boat-based field trips for those who want to experience birding from the water.

Registration is Friday, September 4 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the OIMB Cafeteria, followed by the 7 p.m. program in the OIMB Boathouse Auditorium – “Washed Ashore.” The [Washed Ashore Project](#) is a non-profit, community-based organization with a mission of educating and creating awareness about marine debris and plastic pollution through art. Saturday’s evening program is by Dr. Daniel Roby, Professor, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Oregon State University on “Double-crested Cormorant Ecology and Management in the Columbia River Estuary.”

Rain or sun is expected this time of year; layered clothing is best. Pack extra water, sunscreen, a sunhat, rain gear and mud boots for land-based field trips. To register and for more information contact Dawn Harris 541-867-4550 or [dawn\\_harris@fws.gov](mailto:dawn_harris@fws.gov).

Lodging is available in the dorm at OIMB and at area motels and camping and RV parks. The festival does not provide options for dining on Friday evening nor for any breakfast or lunch. At 5:30 PM on Saturday there will be an optional Sustainable Seafood Dinner in the OIMB cafeteria. The dinner includes Albacore Tuna, salad, side dishes, bread, dessert and a drink. The cost is \$25 per person. Pre-registration for tickets to this dinner is encouraged.

Festival registration costs \$30 per person or \$55 per family. Shirts, the Saturday night dinner, lodging and all meals are extra costs. Visit [oregoncoast.fws.gov/shorebirdfestival.htm](http://oregoncoast.fws.gov/shorebirdfestival.htm) for more information and a registration form.

### Umpqua Valley Audubon Society

#### Fridays during September – beginning September 4<sup>th</sup> Roseburg Swift Watch at Stewart Park - 6:00 p.m.

Vaux’s Swifts (pronounced “vawks”) nest only in western North America, migrating to Central and South America for the winter. At sunset during migration, Swifts gather in the dozens, sometimes hundreds or thousands, to communally roost in the chimney adjacent to ‘The Clay Place’ in the Fir Grove section of Stewart Park, off Harvard Avenue behind the Umpqua Valley Arts Center. Typically these roost sites are, as here, old industrial chimneys. Umpqua Valley Audubon Society members will be available Friday evenings as interpretive naturalists with information about Vaux’s Swifts, as well as more general information.

In addition, throughout September Audubon members will be participating in a West Coast-wide data collection effort. Little is known about even the most basic habits of Vaux’s Swifts. We do know swifts have lost much of their natural habitat, and the number of chimneys available for roosting and nesting is also on the decline. Working in conjunction with our partners up and down the west coast, we hope to fill in some of the data gaps.

For more information, contact Diana Wales at [dianawales@centurylink.net](mailto:dianawales@centurylink.net) or 541-677-0263, or visit [www.umpquaadubon.org](http://www.umpquaadubon.org).

### Fall Classes through Siskiyou Field Institute \* Field-based Natural History Classes \*

Hello, Audubon friends: Siskiyou Field Institute in Selma will offer two September field courses timed for fall bird migration through the Klamath-Siskiyou eco-region. There’s also a local class that may be of interest. Pre-registration is required for all classes by visiting [www.thesfi.org](http://www.thesfi.org) or by calling 541-597-8530, or on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/pages/Siskiyou-Field-Institute/111714667876](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Siskiyou-Field-Institute/111714667876) ~ Kathleen Pyle, SFI Program and Marketing Coordinator

#### Saturday, September 12

##### Birding Upper Klamath Lake by Canoe

Provides an opportunity to view secretive marsh birds up close. Canoes will launch from Rocky Point Marina about 8:00 a.m. and return around 3:00 p.m., with a lunch stop on the water. Birding on foot in the Wood River wetlands will follow. Canoe rental is included in the \$130 tuition. Klamath County birders Kevin Spencer and Dave Haupt will lead the class.

#### Saturday, September 19

##### Birding by Phone

Humboldt County is the setting for “Birding by Phone” on Saturday, September 19. Arcata birder, artist, illustrator and naturalist Gary Bloomfield will provide useful techniques for recording, researching and photographing birds in the field using a smart phone. The class will visit both high-elevation and shoreline locations in search of migrants. Bloomfield designed a video for the class using a smart phone. It’s available by searching “Birding by Phone” on the SFI Facebook page (above). Tuition is \$55.

#### Mon. - Wed., Sept. 28-30

##### The Cryptic World of Red Buttes Wilderness

Red Buttes Wilderness, nestled deep in the Siskiyou along the Oregon/California border, features a great diversity of bryophytes, fungi, and lichens. It will become your personal laboratory as we explore a wide array of habitats within this amazing area. Instructor: Scot Loring. Location: Deer Creek Center, Selma. Tuition: \$225.

\* Siskiyou Field Institute, P.O. Box 207, Selma, OR 97538 \*  
\* (541) 597-8530, ext. 309 \*



Deer Creek Center  
by Dennis Vroman

### Monterey Bay Birding Festival

#### Thursday - Sunday, September 24 - 26, 2015

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual Monterey Bay Birding Festival will feature author and scientist Jon Young as the keynote speaker. Workshops, speakers and daily field trips from Big Sur to the San Mateo County coastline with experienced leaders will be featured from 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. The festival is priced from \$10 to \$120. For registration and more information, call 831-726-8052; e-mail: [montereybaybirding@gmail.com](mailto:montereybaybirding@gmail.com); or visit [www.montereybaybirding.org](http://www.montereybaybirding.org).

## . . . Classes & Outings

### Rogue Valley Audubon Society

Rogue Valley Audubon Society bird walks are open to the public. Bring your own binoculars, food and water. Car-pooling and sharing fuel expenses are encouraged. Please, no dogs. Prepare for the weather; wear sturdy shoes and expect some walking on most trips. Dates and times are subject to change, so before any trip, either check the web site [www.roguevalleyaudubon.org](http://www.roguevalleyaudubon.org) or call Field Trip Chair Maggi Rackley at 541-855-7935, e-mail: [imamaggi2@gmail.com](mailto:imamaggi2@gmail.com).

#### Wednesdays: September 2, October 7 & November 4 First Wednesday Bird Walk - Agate Lake - 8:15 a.m.

On the first Wednesday of each month RVAS takes a bird count at Agate Lake. Experienced leaders organize the count, and birders with any level of expertise are invited to join in this citizen science effort. The walk covers approximately 1-1/2 miles. It begins at 8:30 a.m. and lasts about 2-1/2 hours. Meet at the main parking area on the EAST side of the lake, the far side from the boat ramp. Bring binoculars, field guide, and spotting scope (if you have one). Mud boots are a good idea. Each month, results of the count will be e-mailed to participants and logged into eBird. Any questions, contact leader Murray Orr by phone 541-857-9050, or email at [mworr2@charter.net](mailto:mworrr2@charter.net).

#### Special Birding Trip to the Rogue River Preserve Sunday, September 20

Rogue Valley Audubon Society and Southern Oregon Land Conservancy will host a special birding trip Sunday, September 20, to the Rogue River Preserve, a large tract of private property with more than one mile of River frontage and exceptional areas of oak woodland, grassland, chaparral and riparian forest.



With more than one mile of river frontage (above) and extensive grasslands, the Rogue River Preserve offers a variety of choice birding habitat.

Brian Barr, executive director of the newly-formed Rogue River Watershed Council, and Bob Hunter, longtime RVAS birder and recipient of the 2015 Conservationist of the Year award from SOLC, will be the leaders of this outing. Participants must register with the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy (details below). Because of limited on-site parking, car-pooling will be mandatory. Location and meeting time for car-pooling will be sent to you after you register for this event.

The birding group will be split into two sections as we tour the more than 350 acres of this special location. We expect to find such seasonal residents as Lewis's Woodpecker, as well as Western Bluebird, Oak Titmouse and Bald Eagle. Early fall migrants are also possible. Dress for prevailing weather. Walking will be on mostly level ground. We expect to finish the outing around noon.

To register for this special event, go to <http://rogueriverbirding.eventbrite.com>. For more information or questions about registration, call Southern Oregon Land Conservancy's Teresa Fernandez at 541-482-3069 or email: [info@landconserve.org](mailto:info@landconserve.org).

#### Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 7 p.m. Rogue Valley Audubon Chapter Meeting

at the Medford Congregational Church. The program is Birding Adventures in South America: Patagonia, Brazil and the Galapagos, presented by Pepper Trail.

### Ashland Birding & Outings

The City of Ashland and North Mountain Park host several bird-watching outings this fall. Visit [www.AshlandParksandRec.org](http://www.AshlandParksandRec.org). To register for either event, go to [www.ashland.or.us/register](http://www.ashland.or.us/register) or phone the Nature Center at 541-488-6606. September events are:

#### Late Summer Morning Free Bird Walk Saturday, September 12, 8 - 9 a.m.

Stroll through North Mountain Park with local birding experts from the Rogue Valley. This will be an opportunity to see and hear a variety of birds that are year-round residents here and some that are migrating through the area. Binoculars and field guides will be available for check-out. FREE.



#### Class: Exploring Mindful Birding Wednesday & Saturday, September 16 & 19, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

For beginners or skilled bird-watchers, this class at North Mountain Park has a focus of learning in a fun way using beautiful photography and lore. Instructors: Kate McKenzie and Shannon Rio, birders and naturalists. "Mindful birding" means being relaxed and curious about what birds and sounds come to us. We will practice this in class and on the Saturday field trip. Binoculars will be provided. Fee: \$20.00.

#### Puget Sound Bird Fest – Edmonds, Washington Friday - Sunday, September 11 – 13

The City of Edmonds, Washington hosts this 3-day event, which includes speakers, guided walks, land and water-based field trips, exhibits, and educational activities for children and adults. For Details and to Register, visit [www.pugetsoundbirdfest.org](http://www.pugetsoundbirdfest.org) or phone 425-771-0227.



Bald Eagle and Canada Geese  
by Phil Hicks

#### Ridgefield NWR 'Birdfest' Bird & Nature Festival Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 5 – 6

Drive up I-5 to the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge in SW Washington, just north of Vancouver along the Columbia River. Here is a haven for birds that make this their winter home. 'Bird-fest' is a celebration of the fall migration and an opportunity to experience wildlife of the region and local history firsthand, all set against the backdrop of Ridgefield's small-town charm.

Keynote lecture by Jon Young, who shares his 30 years of experience in deciphering the mysteries of Bird Language as a doorway to connection to nature. Learn secrets to understand the common birds around your home and what they have to say. New this year, Animal Track & Sign 101 Walk, Artwork of the Plankhouse, a digital photography workshop, an English Ivy Basketry workshop and a bird language workshop. A traditional salmon bake will be held Sunday afternoon with complimentary samplings. Bird Language, Watercolor, and Photography Workshops & Crane Tours by Reservation Only. Also enjoy Canoe & Kayak Trips, Bluegrass Concerts, Jamming & Movies. Visit <http://ridgefieldfriends.org/birdfest> to download the entire 2015 event schedule.

## Umpqua Valley Audubon Society (cont'd.)

Saturday, September 5, 7:45 a.m.

### Elk Island Field Trip

This privately owned island and river bottom habitat is a gem for local birdwatchers. We are continuing to visit this site to see what shows up at different times of year. Early September is peak migration for many species and we expect a variety of species to be found, including some water birds and land birds. Green Herons, Spotted Sandpiper, and Belted Kingfisher are expected. Migrant Yellow Warblers and Swainson's Thrushes are possible. We also may catch early returning "winter" species such as Fox and Golden-crowned Sparrows. What else will we find? To car-pool to the area (so as to reduce the number of cars under the bridge), meet at the Roseburg BLM visitor parking area by 7:45 a.m.. Otherwise, meet under the Oak Street Bridge, west side of the river at 8:00 a.m.

Directions: drive east from I-5 on Harvard Blvd, and just after Travelodge and before the bridge, turn right down a small road that goes down under the bridge. We will walk around the area for 2-3 hours. Sturdy shoes are recommended. Questions? Call or email Matt Hunter, 541-670-1984 or [matthewghunter@gmail.com](mailto:matthewghunter@gmail.com).

### Saturday, October 3

#### Sutherlin Sites - Field Trip 8 a.m.

We will visit Ford's Pond, Plat I Reservoir, and Cooper Creek Reservoir. In early October we expect a few shorebirds to remain at Ford's Pond and Plat I Reservoir, and migrant water birds and land birds at all sites. Meet along Church Road at Ford's Pond at 08:00. We will spend an hour or two at Ford's Pond, then go to Cooper Creek Reservoir for an hour or so, and then Plat I Reservoir for an hour or so. Questions? Call or email Jimmy Billstine, 503-812-5336, [billstinj@gmail.com](mailto:billstinj@gmail.com).

2 A — DAILY COURIER, Grants Pass, Oregon • THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2015



STEVE BRUSATTE, UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH/Associated Press

**A nearly complete, new feather-winged dinosaur fossil has been unearthed in China. The new species named Zhenyuanlong suni is a close cousin of the famous predator Velociraptor in the Jurassic Park movies.**

### Feather-winged dinosaur species unearthed in China

LONDON — A nearly complete, new dinosaur fossil has been

unearthed in China, the first in its family to have unusually short feathered wings. The new species named Zhenyuanlong suni is a close cousin of the dinosaur predator Velociraptor. Scientists said the new addition, which lived around 125 million years ago, had multiple layers of dense feathers covering both its wings and tail. Experts, however, believe the feathers are more for display instead of flying. Steve Brusatte, of the University of Edinburgh, co-authored the study published online today in Scientific Reports. He said the newly discovered dinosaur "looks just like a bird ... just like an eagle or a vulture." The skeleton was discovered in the western part of Liaoning Province in China where the first feathered dinosaurs were found.

## Let's Talk Birds Cranes – 15 Species

Cranes are birds of superlatives. Not only are they one of the oldest groups of birds, dating back to the Paleocene some 60 million years ago, they are also long-lived, with captive cranes surviving into their seventies and eighties. Moreover, they are the tallest flying birds. Some species stand up to 6 feet high.

The cranes' beauty and grace are legendary and have long been revered by many indigenous peoples. Unfortunately, they are also among the world's most endangered birds; 9 of the 15 species are now at risk, and humankind is entirely responsible for their recent decline.

Cranes are monogamous, they live with one partner until one dies, and with the onset of spring or the rainy season, mated pairs retreat to secluded grasslands or wetlands where they establish and vigorously defend a breeding territory that may include several thousand hectares, depending on species or topography.

~John Taylor



American White Pelican  
Wikipedia.org

Pop Quiz Answer: American White Pelican



Sandhill Cranes

## Audubon Society Membership Applications

Siskiyou Audubon is a nonprofit society under IRC §501(c)3, Tax ID #93-0866572. Subscriptions are tax-deductible. Send your application with dues payment to the address shown on the form – PLEASE CHOOSE ONLY ONE FORM.

### Siskiyou Audubon Society Membership Application - Local

Pay and Mail this to: Siskiyou Audubon Society, P.O. Box 2223, Grants Pass, OR 97528



I wish to become a local member:  \$15.00 Regular  \$10.00 Student  Extra Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ New  Renewal

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal Date \_\_\_\_\_

REQUIRED: E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

OR: I do not have email. Please send a printed copy of **The Siskin** to me by U.S. mail, to

Address: \_\_\_\_\_, City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Siskiyou Audubon membership includes **The Siskin** newsletter for one year from date of dues payment.

### Audubon



### National Audubon Society –

Pay and Mail this to:

National Audubon Society, Chapter Membership Data Center, P.O. Box 422246, Palm Coast, FL 32142-6714

I wish to become a member:  \$20.00 Family Introductory Rate  \$35.00 Sustaining

\$50.00 Supporting  \$100.00 Contributing  \$500.00 Donor  \$1000.00 Lifetime

New  Renewal  Renewal Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ **Siskiyou Audubon, Chapter #C4ZT610Z**

National Audubon Society membership includes subscriptions to both *Audubon Magazine* and **The Siskin** newsletter.

### Directory

**The Siskin**, newsletter of Siskiyou Audubon Society (“SAS”), is published six times per year. SAS is Chapter No. T61 of National Audubon Society. Address corrections, items for publication or letters to the Editor to Editor, P.O. Box 2223, Grants Pass, OR 97528; or phon or FAX to 541-955-2934; or e-mail [avnwmn@budget.net](mailto:avnwmn@budget.net). Siskiyou Audubon Society encourages submission of letters, articles and photos, which may be published at the discretion of the editor. Articles may be edited for size or clarity. Permission to reprint articles from this publication is granted unless the article is under copyright, and provided credit is given to both the author and the newsletter. SAS meets the second Thursday, September through June. The SAS Board of Directors meets monthly or at times determined by the Board. Members, Visitors and the Public are welcome to attend all meetings.

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Lee Webb.....	” ”	June 2016
Marsha Hicks.....	” ”	June 2017

#### Email Addresses & Phone Numbers

Shirley Bredahl. . . . .	<a href="mailto:cubita@budget.net">cubita@budget.net</a> .....	541-476-6461
Susan Bush.....	<a href="mailto:pinesandstars@gmail.com">pinesandstars@gmail.com</a> .	541-955-8966
Pat Etchells. . . . .	<a href="mailto:deerhill.gp@gmail.com">deerhill.gp@gmail.com</a> . . .	541-218-0543
Marsha Hicks.....	<a href="mailto:tatahi@charter.net">tatahi@charter.net</a> . . . . .	541-474-4457
Phil Hicks. . . . .	<a href="mailto:philhi66@charter.net">philhi66@charter.net</a> .....	541-474-4457
Margaret James. . . . .	<a href="mailto:mcdjames@yahoo.com">mcdjames@yahoo.com</a> . . .	541-476-8126
Boyd Peters . . . . .	<a href="mailto:boyd.wolfcreek@gmail.com">boyd.wolfcreek@gmail.com</a> . .	541-866-2596
Fran Taylor. . . . .	<a href="mailto:avnwmn@budget.net">avnwmn@budget.net</a> . . . . .	541-955-2934
John & Joy Taylor. . . . .	<a href="mailto:tayjoh@oigp.net">tayjoh@oigp.net</a> . . . . .	541-476-9846
Dennis Vroman. . . . .	<a href="mailto:dpvroman@budget.net">dpvroman@budget.net</a> . . . . .	541-479-4619
Lee Webb.....	<a href="mailto:lowebb@charter.net">lowebb@charter.net</a> .....	541-479-6859

#### Committees and Chairpersons

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##### Education

Programs – Joy Taylor

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##### Ornithologist

Dennis Vroman

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*Siskiyou Audubon Society*

Newsletter Number 274 – September 2015

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

E-Mail: [sisqaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:sisqaudubon@gmail.com)



Pine Siskin  
by Joy Taylor

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Spotted Owl by Zia Fukuda 2010

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### Volunteers are needed for Kids' Nest Box Building

**Thurs. Sept. 10 Kit Making and**

**Sat. Sept. 26 - "Saturday Parkways" event**

Sign up with Lee Webb or Fran Taylor. Thanks!

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### Date Book – September / October 2015

Wed. Sept. 2: Rogue Valley Audubon Society First Wednesday Bird Walk at Agate Lake

Fri.-Sun. Sept. 4-6: 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Oregon Shorebird Festival, Charleston, OR Institute of Marine Biology

Sat. Sept. 5: Umpqua Valley Audubon - Elk Island Field Trip 7:45 a.m.

Thurs. Sept. 10: Siskiyou Audubon Society - Kit Making Day - 9 a.m.

Thurs. Sept. 10: SAS Chapter Meeting - 6 p.m. at Room 406, Grants Pass High School

Fri.-Sun. Sept. 11-13: Puget Sound Bird Fest at Edmonds, Washington

Sat. Sept. 12: City of Ashland North Mountain Park Bird Walk, 8-9 a.m.

Siskiyou Field Institute Class - Birding Upper Klamath Lake by Canoe

Wed. Sept. 16: Ashland North Mountain Park - Class "Mindful Birding"

Sat. Sept. 19: SFI Class - Birding by Phone

Ashland North Mountain Park - Class "Mindful Birding"

Sun. Sept. 20: RVAS Special Birding Trip to the Rogue River Preserve

Tues. Sept. 22: RVAS Chapter Meeting 7 p.m.

Thurs.-Sun. Sept. 24-26: Monterey Bay Birding Festival

Sat. Sept. 26: City of Grants Pass "Saturday Parkways" Festival with Siskiyou Audubon's Kids' Nest Box Building

Mon.-Wed. Sept. 28-30: SFI Class - The Cryptic World of Red Buttes Wilderness

Sat. Oct. 3: UVAS Field Trip - Sutherlin Sites 8 a.m.

Sat.-Sun. Oct. 5-6: Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, WA - 'Birdfest' Bird & Nature Festival

Wed. Oct. 7: RVAS First Wednesday Bird Walk at Agate Lake

Thurs. Oct. 8: SAS Chapter Meeting



Pine Siskin  
by Rosie Anderson