



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 9th Street, Grants Pass. Room 406 is in the northernmost building on campus. Enter the parking lot from either 8th or 9th 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, October 8, 2015

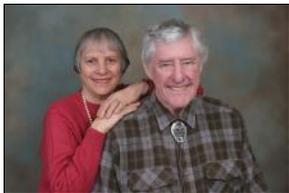
6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Come join us in Room 406 at Grants Pass High School. From 6 to about 6:30, we'll talk birds, socialize and snack. Then we'll settle down for the . . .

Program: Birds of Belize by John & Joy Taylor

Belize is one of the premier birding hot spots in the world. Bird biologist John Taylor and his wife, Joy, will take you on a photo trip to this exciting land at the end of the Yucatan peninsula. The Taylors visited lakes, estuaries, jungles and the ancient lands of the Maya in search of exotic birds, some of which are found nowhere else on earth. You will see images of the Gartered Trogon, the uncommon Grey-breasted Martin, the elusive and rarely seen Black Catbird, the Northern Pauraque, a member of the nightjar family, Canivet's Emerald Hummingbird, the Rufous-breasted Spinetail and many more.

John and Joy Taylor are Siskiyou Audubon Society members who have a life-list bird count of over 900 species. John is a 1990 graduate of Cornell University with a diploma in Bird Biology.



Joy & John Taylor

Chapter Meeting - November 12, 2015

Program: Birds of Patagonia

The Patagonia region encompasses the vast southernmost tip of South America, shared by Argentina and Chile, with the Andes as its dividing line. The Argentine side features arid steppes, grasslands and deserts, while the Chilean side has glacial fjords and temperate rainforest.

During February 2015, Brandon Breen took a trip to Argentine Patagonia. In this presentation he'll share his photos and birding experiences from his trip. Brandon visited the towns of El Calafate and El Chalten in the far south of Patagonia and made excursions to the surrounding areas, including a visit to the Perito Moreno Glacier in Los Glaciares National Park. Imagine seeing a parakeet and a glacier in a single view! He next visited San Carlos de Bariloche in northern Patagonia, where he encountered the largest flock of Andean condors he had ever seen. There are many other avian surprises to be shared, including his experiences with the flamingos and other fabulous birds of Reserva Laguna Nimez.



Brandon Breen in Chilean Patagonia

Brandon Breen is a writer and conservation biologist living in Ashland, Oregon. He has worked on numerous bird research projects throughout the U.S. and abroad, focusing on such species as the California and Andean condors, the Turkey Vulture, and the Golden-cheeked Warbler. Brandon is currently working on the Mindful Birding Project which aims to increase awareness of ethical birding guidelines as well as the conservation impacts of America's birdwatchers. Brandon previously gave a program on vultures to Siskiyou Audubon Society. We hope you will join us for this fun and educational presentation.

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.



Acorn Woodpeckers

Chapter News



As this issue of *The Siskin* goes to press, the Editor is recovering from a day on the concrete helping kids build their own nest boxes from Siskiyou Audubon Society kits. Margaret, Phil, Marsha, D'wain, Susi, Susan, Fran, and Glenn kept five work stations going for about three hours. The Grants Pass Saturday Parkways Festival was from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to promote getting outside and being active. There was a boomerang throw, a bounce house, archery, golf, a 5k run early in the day and much, much more. Kids could blow the horn on a garbage truck courtesy of Republic Services, or a fire truck, courtesy of Grants Pass Department of Public Safety. Kids who filled their "bingo card" with stickers from the various activities got a free ice cream bar. The weather was perfect until the wind came up about 2 p.m., AND we ran out of kits. 64 Kits were built by kids into bird houses to take home and put up for next spring.

Our next Kids' Nest Box Building project will be teacher Mary Trammell's "SMILE" (science) club family math and science night on Thursday, November 5 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Evergreen Elementary School in Cave Junction. We will likely car-pool there. Any member wishing to come and help kids build, get in touch with Lee Webb at 541-479-6859 or email lowebb@charter.net.

National Audubon Society has changed its membership management by adding two new partners for membership services. This transition will create improve Audubon's membership program. There is a new address for mail-in memberships formerly sent to Palm Beach, Florida. The new address is National Audubon Society, Inc., 225 Varick Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10014, Attn: Chance Mueleck. Our enrollment forms on Page 7 have been changed accordingly. There is a also new membership services help email address and phone number – please use email customerservice@audubon.org or telephone 844-428-3826 for membership related questions.

Fall North American Migration Count & Other Autumn Phenomena

Anyone who missed the total eclipse of the "super-moon" the evening of Sunday 27 September missed a truly impressive sight. Blood-orange red, the moon loomed huge in the evening sky for almost an hour before gradually turning bright silver. A "super-moon" occurs when the Moon is in the closest part of its orbit to Earth, meaning it appears larger in the sky. The eclipse was visible in North America, South America, West Africa and Western Europe. This phenomenon was last observed in 1982 and will not be back before 2033.

Though the warm weather continues, the birds are showing clear signs of it being Autumn. The Oregon Juncos are back in our yards, as is the Red-breasted Sapsucker. Migration southward continues for most of the songbirds, so the birds we see are either passing through, or have come here to winter over from their breeding grounds in the far north.

On September 19th a group of us visited Whitehorse County Park to count birds for the Fall North American Migration Count. Currently lacking a count coordinator, the results were instead input to e-Bird. 39 Species were observed by Fran T., Susi P., Margaret J. and Susan B. The White-throated Sparrow was listed by e-Bird as a rarity, although they have been seen in the County before. Missing from the area were Western Bluebirds, which have been scarce all summer. Wonder where they have gone? Warblers were seen – Yellow-rumped, MacGillivray's, Wilson's and the Common Yellowthroat. Cedar Waxwings were there, as were several shorebirds – Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Killdeer among them – and riparian species – Belted Kingfisher, Black Phoebe and more. A late Osprey was hunting the Rogue while Mallard dabbled in the backwaters. The day was gorgeous starting out about 50 and ending about 75°F. The checklist can be seen at <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S25171573>.

While the weather holds, get outside and make all the observations you can. Join the October 16 field trip to Upper Table Rock. Or just get a friend and go birding. If you're not into computers, keep a journal & send your results to the Editor for publication in *The Siskin*. Above all, enjoy the birds!

Pop Quiz: Do You Know Where the Birds Go?

Fall migration is underway. Warblers, thrushes, shorebirds – most of the birds we take for granted during the summer months – are headed south for the winter. For centuries, their destinations were a mystery. Modern science has decoded where many birds migrate, but researchers are still actively tracking birds to find their wintering grounds.

Test your knowledge of where these seven species end up during winter. (And, yes, many will end up in multiple countries.) The correct answer for each bird in this quiz is where Audubon scientists or conservation partners in those countries have found significant overwintering populations. Answers on Page 6.



Townsend's Warbler
by Zia Fukuda

	Species	Winters In: A	B	C	D
1	Swainson's Thrush	Colombia	Chile	Uruguay	Paraguay
2	Spotted Sandpiper	Brazil	Colombia	Panama	All of these
3	Yellow Warbler	Chile	Brazil	Mexico	Bolivia
4	Western Sandpiper	Panama	Argentina	Chile	Uruguay
5	Bobolink	Bahamas	Paraguay	Mexico	Belize
6	Marbled Godwit	Chile	Mexico	Ecuador	Colombia
7	Wilson's Warbler	Venezuela	Ecuador	Belize	Nicaragua

Bonus Question: Audubon South Carolina attached a geolocator to a single Prothonotary Warbler and sent it on its way, knowing that the chances of recovering the bird were very low. What did they name that warbler?

A) Hail Mary	B) Hope & a Prayer	C) Long Shot	D) Bruce
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Obituary — Lynn Foley

Lynn Foley, age 74, of Grants Pass, died Thursday, August 27, 2015 at his home. Arrangements are pending with Hull & Hull Funeral Directors, www.since1928hull.com.

Lynn and his wife Joan were members of Siskiyou Audubon Society until early in the 21st Century. Lynn served as Treasurer for several years, and with Joan, served up the coffee and sweets at Audubon Chapter Meetings. They also helped on work parties to maintain trails at Whitehorse County Park. He had a unique sense of humor and a serious work ethic, and he will be missed.



Marple & Lynn Foley Building Nest Boxes
March 18, 2000

New Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop Open in Medford

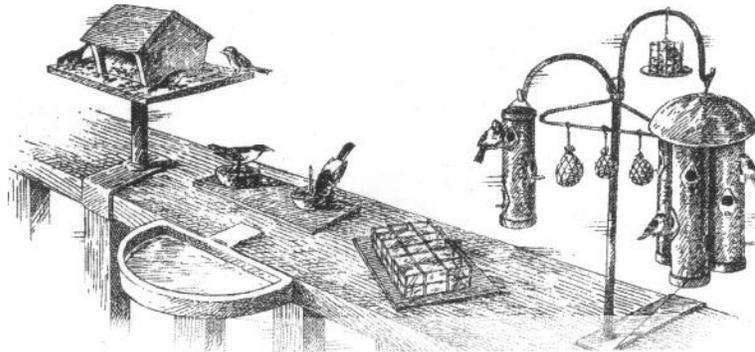
Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop has a new store open in Medford at 987 Medford Center, Medford, OR 97504. To get there, take I-5 south to Medford Exit 30, then take Biddle Road to Stevens, and Medford Center. The store is located between Safeway and Rite-aid, just off Crater

Avenue at Stevens. Store Hours are Monday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; closed Sunday. For more information phone: 541-772-2107 or email: wbumedford1@gmail.com.

New owner Laura Fleming relates, “From playing in the creek behind my house as a child in Cincinnati, Ohio, to earning a B.S. in Wildlife Biology and Management from Michigan State University, I have always been interested in and connected to the natural world and its wildlife . . . I consider myself a life-long student of birding, finding there is always more to learn and discover. My main focus in life is on conservation of the environment and the promotion of healthy habitats for birds and other wildlife. I currently serve on the Board of Directors for the Klamath Bird Observatory in Ashland, OR. I became a “Wild Bird Specialist” at Wild Birds Unlimited in 1999 when the Felkers first owned and operated it. For the past 15 years, I have been the buyer for wild bird supplies for seven farm and garden stores in southern Oregon. When the opportunity to buy my own Wild Birds Unlimited store presented itself, I jumped in with both feet! I look forward to many years ahead helping customers develop and enjoy their own backyard bird habitats.”



Laura Fleming
New Owner of Wild Birds
Unlimited in Medford



New Birding App Testers Needed

A new, free App for iPhone and iPad called Kea: Learn Birds Through Play has just been released by its developer, Christopher Duke, a graduate student in biology at Washington State University. The App is designed to make the process of learning to recognize birds faster and more fun by turning it into a game. Kea uses several different games to build and test growing knowledge of birds with levels that group birds by their habitat or taxonomy. Anyone can play it for free, starting with the birds they are most likely to see in their own backyards. As each level is passed, the user earns tokens that can be used to unlock new levels, modes, and habitats. Users start with ‘Backyard Birds’ levels, to recognize the birds they see close to home. A user can also play with levels organized according to taxonomy, rather than habitat. They can use their learning to unlock all the birds in North America, Europe, and Costa Rica including pelagic species and rarities. For more advanced birders, modes can be unlocked to learn the scientific names of all species, or in a Timed Mode that sharpens rapid identification skills.

The initial version was tested and critiqued by Audubon members. Their feedback has been incorporated into the current version. Chris is seeking folks who would be interested in primary testing the latest version of the App.

Since Kea is designed to be free to use, Beta testers would be asked to download and try out the App, then provide feedback through a questionnaire. If they are interested, they can then elect to be part of the Beta Testers group, further helping to direct the future of Kea. Beta testers for the initial release of Kea will be given access to all future updates of Kea before they become generally available, and will have a say in the future directions for the App, such as our upcoming level-building expansion, or Thailand and Australia versions.

Anyone interested in primary testing Kea on their iPhone or iPad can email Christopher Duke at keabirdlearning.info@gmail.com. A questionnaire will be sent to you, and once you turn it back in, you can choose to be on the advanced notice list for future expansions if you like. The App itself can be accessed through Apple’s App Store. The Android version should be available this fall. To see examples of the game, check out Chris’s Kickstarter Campaign at <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/653016829/new-birding-app-kea-learn-birds-through-play> or Kea’s IndieGoGo Campaign at <https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/new-birding-app-kea-learn-birds-through-play/x/12027953#/story>.



Youngest Kea fans with developer
Uncle Chris



Events, Field Trips, Festivals, . . .

Umpqua Valley Audubon Birding

Saturday, October 3, 8 a.m.

Sutherland Sites

Ford's Pond, Plat I Reservoir, and Cooper Creek Reservoir. Early October often finds a few shorebirds remaining at Ford's Pond and Plat I, and migrant water birds and land birds at all sites. Meet along Church Road at Ford's Pond at 8 a.m. for an hour or two there, then Cooper Creek Reservoir for awhile and then Plat I Reservoir. Questions? Call or email Jimmy Billstine, 503-812-5336, billstinj@gmail.com.

Saturday, October 10, 8:45 a.m.

Happy Valley Boat Ramp

The parking area at this boat ramp gives a good view of the South Umpqua River and adjacent riparian shrubs and woods. In early to mid-October likely birds include Common Merganser, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Green Heron, Belted Kingfisher, Downy Woodpecker, Cedar Waxwing, Golden-crowned Sparrow, and others; and is also a good location for the Black-crowned Night Heron in late summer and fall.

Meet at the Roseburg BLM visitor parking lot for car-pooling at 8:45 a.m., or at the Happy Valley Boat Ramp at 9 a.m. To get to the boat ramp from I-5 northbound, take Exit 119 and go toward Winston on Hwy. 42, then turn right either onto Hwy. 99 (about 3/4 mi.) or Carnes Rd. (1.5 mi.), and go about a mile. Then turn left onto Happy Valley Rd., and go 1.4 mi., turn right onto Amber Ln., then left onto Potteet Ave. to boat ramp. Questions? Contact Mikeal Jones at 541-673-1859 or e-mail: mikealjones@charter.net.

Saturday, October 17

Diamond Lake Boat Trip

Reservations are required for this all-day cruise around Diamond Lake, where we will stop at concentrations of waterfowl as well as at several terrestrial locations for restroom stops and land and marsh birding. Besides the water birds, Diamond Lake has species such as Mountain Chickadee and Clark's Nutcracker not often seen at lower elevations. A complete list of birds and notes from our Nov. 2, 2014, trip can be found on e-Bird at <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S20432121>. Some photos from that trip are at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/matthewghunter/sets/72157649122695315>.

Cost will be \$20 to \$50/person for the boat trip, depending on registrations. Bring lunch, water, and appropriate clothing. We will leave Diamond Lake Marina at 8:00 a.m. on a "patio boat," and arrive back there between 3 and 4 p.m., depending on weather, birds, and participant choices. Preregistration is required! Call or email Matt Hunter at 541-670-1984, matthewghunter@gmail.com, with your name, phone number, email, and any questions.

Friday, October 23

Ford's Pond 8 a.m.

By late October a fair diversity of waterfowl will have returned to Ford's Pond, and there is a chance of an early Swamp Sparrow. We will spend time on the east side of the pond, and those who wish may join me for the 1.7 mile loop around. Sturdy shoes are recommended (waterproof boots if it has been a wet October). Meet along Church Rd. at 8:00 a.m. Questions? Call or email Matt Hunter, 541-670-1984 or matthewghunter@gmail.com or visit www.umpquaaudubon.org.

The Siskin

City of Ashland Birding

Programs and classes at North Mountain Park in Ashland are provided under the auspices of the Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission (APRC). Class fees are as shown. For more information and to pre-register for all courses and activities (except as noted), go [online](http://www.ashland.or.us/register) to www.ashland.or.us/register or phone at 541-488-5340 or FAX at 541-488-5314. Or visit or write 340 S. Pioneer St., Ashland, OR 97520.

Hawks! Tuesday Evenings October 6, 13 & 20

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at North Mountain Park

Hawks are fascinating creatures that capture our imaginations as few other bird groups do. Easily seen, but tough to identify, they push our primal poetic buttons. This popular course includes a PowerPoint presentation that will examine the natural history of diurnal raptors – what makes a hawk a hawk, anyhow? We will also investigate hawks' relationship with humans throughout history. This is NOT an ID class, but at the end of this course, you are guaranteed to be a dedicated hawk enthusiast! **Cost is \$25** for the series. Instructor Dick Ashford is Director Emeritus of the

Klamath Bird Observatory and a hawk-watching tour leader in the Klamath-Siskiyou ecoregion.

Wednesday Evenings October 14 & 21

Learning About Birds –

6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at North Mountain Park

Whether a beginning or seasoned birder, this class will explore getting to know the birds of our area using photography, bird song and fun facts. Information on locations to go birding will be included. In the Oct. 21 class, the emphasis will be on birding by ear and identification of some challenging species. Instructor Shannon Rio teaches classes about birds, plant medicine and yoga. She is on the Board of the Klamath Bird Observatory. Cost is \$15 per class.

Attracting & Feeding Birds in Your Yard

Tuesday November 10, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

Learn about bird feeders, common bird-feeder visitors (sparrows, woodpeckers, finches, etc.) and the feed that attracts birds to your yard. Many of these birds rely on feeding stations, especially during the cold winter months. Instructor Vince Zauskey will answer your questions such as: When should I begin feeding birds? Should I feed birds year-round? What is that hummingbird I see during the winter, and should I feed it? Vince will also show slides of common feeder birds, answer any other questions you may have and provide handouts identifying the resources that make bird feeding easy and fun! This class is just in time for the Nationwide Project FeederWatch program that begins at North Mountain Park on Saturday, November 14. Cost is \$20.

16th Annual BirdFest & Bluegrass Celebration

Saturday - Sunday, October 3 - 4, 2015

Join the Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge and the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Staff as we celebrate the coming of fall and the wildlife that make the Refuge their home. BirdFest and Bluegrass is an opportunity to enjoy the sights and sounds of fall migration along the Columbia River in southern Washington. For details, visit ridgefieldfriends.org/birdfest.



Sharp-shinned Hawk
by John Taylor

. . . Classes & Outings

Rogue Valley Audubon Society

Rogue Valley Audubon Society bird walks are free and 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.roguevalley-audubon.org or call Field Trip Chair Russ Namitz at 541-294-2063, e-mail: namitzr@hotmail.com.

Wednesdays: October 7, November 4 & December 2 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. During the fall/winter months when the gate is normally locked, it will be open to birders from 8:00 to 8:25. 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:mwor2@charter.net).

Saturday, October 10, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Field Trip to Lost Creek Lake and Holy Waters

Leader Russ Namitz will meet with participants at 8 a.m. at the northeast end of the north Fred Meyer parking lot in Medford. Take Exit 30 from I-5 and go north on Highway 62 to Poplar Drive, to the parking lot with the Goodwill trailer, south of the Taco Bell (Google Maps: 42.352980, -122.869954). We will car-pool from there to explore Joseph Stewart State Park and walk out onto the mudflats, birding the willows, flats and open lake. A spotting scope is recommended for the lake, but not necessary. Expect to walk 1 to 2 miles over flat, even ground throughout the morning. If there is time, we will bird the "Holy Waters" in search of a slightly different species mix. Bring a sack lunch and water. We should return to Medford by 2 p.m. or earlier. Space is limited, so email Russ Namitz namitzr@hotmail.com to sign up.

Siskiyou Audubon Society

Friday, October 16 – Upper Table Rock Field Trip

Dennis Vroman will lead this field trip to Upper Table Rock. Meet at 7:30 a.m. in Grants Pass at the northwest corner of the Wal-mat parking area near Taco Bell to car-pool. Or be at the Upper Table Rock parking area by 8:30 a.m. Trail to the top is about 1.25 miles long and fairly easy for the most part. Dress for the weather and bring any food and drinks you want for the day.

Ending time is open, depending on bird activity and what those attending would like to do. Send questions to Dennis Vroman by phone 541-479-4619 or cell: 541-237-9521 or e-mail dpvroman@budget.net.

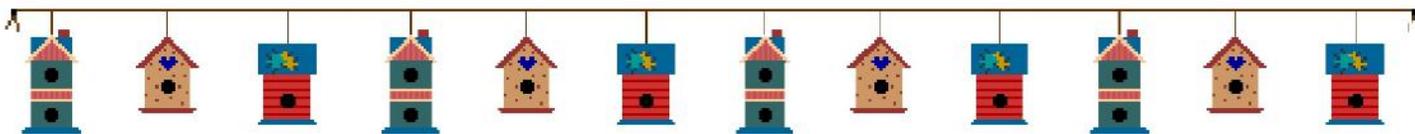


Project FeederWatch
An annual survey of birds that visit feeders in winter
CORNELL LAB of ORNITHOLOGY

Project FeederWatch

9 - 10 a.m. on Alternate Saturdays November 14 & 28, December 12 & 26. . . and Ongoing through March 2016

Help count birds that visit the feeders at North Mountain Park while learning to identify species with expert birders. This is an opportunity for all-level birders to get acquainted with local birds and other birders. Rogue Valley Audubon Society volunteers will be there, and the information collected will be submitted to Cornell University's FeederWatch Project, a nationwide citizen science bird monitoring effort. Suitable for ages 10 through adult. Pre-registration is **not** required for this program.



Siskiyou Field Institute

Free Fall Friday Night Learning

All programs start at 6:30 p.m. Free refreshments. Free community classes given by Siskiyou Field Institute this fall at Deer Creek Center, 1241 Illinois River Road, Selma. Deer Creek Center, home to SFI year round, boasts facilities used by researchers and other academic groups during the field season. The following courses are offered free of charge. For more information, visit their website at www.thesfi.org, write to P.O. Box 207, Selma, OR 97538 or phone 541-597-8530.

Friday, October 2, 6:30 p.m.

Field Guide to Manzanitas

Presented by author and Bigfoot Trail coordinator Michael Kauffmann, who will talk about the most diverse plant group in our bioregion. He will also sell and sign copies of his books, including the field guide. Note: This is a free program but donations to the Bigfoot Trail fund will be much appreciated.

Friday, October 9 - Climate Change Effects on Native Plants, Communities, and Ecosystems in Pacific Northwest Prairies

By Dr. Scott Bridgham, Director, University of Oregon Institute of Ecology and Evolution

Friday, November 20 - Edible and Medicinal Plants of California: A Bioregional Exploration

Tellur Fenner, Blue Wind Botanical Medicine Clinic and Educational Center, Ukiah, California

Siskiyou Audubon Society Scholarships for Siskiyou Field Institute Classes

During the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2015, Siskiyou Audubon Society provided \$500 to Siskiyou Field Institute as scholarship money for teachers and other educators in Josephine County to be able to take SFI classes, in order to help fulfill our Mission. As this newsletter goes to print, four scholarships have been granted. Over the next few newsletters, we will hear from those who benefitted from our funding. First to come is this article by Suzie Savoie, who took a class on Eriogonums.

This past July, Siskiyou Field Institute (SFI) offered the course, *Eriogonums of the Siskiyou*. Dr. James Reveal, known for his extensive work on the taxonomy of Eriogonums, or wild buckwheats, was to be the course instructor. Dr. Reveal was a professor emeritus at the University of Maryland, adjunct professor at Cornell University's Department of Plant Biology and honorary curator at the New York Botanical Garden. Unfortunately, Dr. Reveal passed away before the course, but SFI was able to get together three different instructors to pull off the course in Dr. Reveal's honor. I had the honor of receiving a Siskiyou Audubon scholarship to attend this amazing course.

After moving to southern Oregon in 2001, I became intimately acquainted with the native flora of the region through long hikes and backpacking trips. Living off-grid with my husband, Luke, at the foot of the Siskiyou Crest in the headwaters of the Applegate River, my knowledge of the region expands a little more each year. The quest to further my understanding of the unique and diverse landscape of the Klamath-Siskiyou bioregion is what has led me to take courses through the Siskiyou Field Institute; courses that, over the years, have not only enriched my own personal understanding, but have also allowed me to improve my botanical skills to further expand my professional attributes.

I have worked at Forestfarm Nursery in Williams, Oregon, for four and a half years. Now part of the non-profit organization Pacifica, Forestfarm is a large mail-order nursery with an extremely diverse inventory that specializes in rare and unusual hardy plants from around the world. Forestfarm also emphasizes the use of native plants, including plants endemic to the Klamath-Siskiyou Mountains. Native plant propagation is a skill I developed over the past fifteen years, starting with the enhancement of my own property through native rock gardens, meadow restoration and forest restoration. My husband has done forest restoration work for most of his career, in addition to writing the hiking guide, *The Siskiyou Crest: Hikes, History & Ecology*, which we edited together and self-published in 2012.

A natural outgrowth of my interests in habitat restoration and native plant propagation has been the formation of my own business, Klamath-Siskiyou Native Seeds. These seeds are being used for habitat restoration, pollinator gardens, wildlife friendly gardens, native plant conservation and rock gardens by private landowners and native plant enthusiasts throughout the region and beyond. My degree is not in botany – I have a BA in English from San Diego State University, useful as I write about native plants in the Applegate Newspaper and on my blog, www.klamathsiskiyouseeds.com.

The three-day course, *Eriogonums of the Siskiyou*, had multiple components. The first day we spent partly in the lab, looking through microscopes at the anatomy of wild buckwheats, and also out in the field to look at Eriogonum species in the Onion Mountain area, Rough & Ready Creek, and Waldo Road. The next day we ventured to Mt. Ashland, Hilt, Scott Valley, then Scott Mountain Summit, stopping along the way to look at Eriogonums. The third day we drove toward the coast, to the Horse Mountain Botanical Area outside of Arcata, CA, then to the coast itself to see the last Eriogonum species in the course. It was a whirlwind of an Eriogonum adventure and I really enjoyed seeing all the various species, subspecies, and variations through five different local counties. This course helped me refine my ability to key out Eriogonum species through botanical keys, and provided me with familiarity with many different species, their habitat requirements and where they grow, all in a very short amount of time. The course instructors did a fabulous job in teaching the course and I had a fabulous time.

I will use the knowledge I gained through this course to further educate and encourage people living in the Siskiyou Mountains to plant native plants for pollinators, wildlife habitat, and native plant conservation. The Siskiyou Audubon scholarship program through SFI is beneficial for folks like myself, who otherwise couldn't afford such top-notch field-based ecology classes. Thank you for this opportunity!

~ Suzie Savoie, Klamath-Siskiyou Native Seeds, www.klamathsiskiyouseeds.com



Suzie Savoie and the second largest incense cedar in the world at Tanner Lake



Pop Quiz Answers: 1)A, 2)D, 3)C, 4)A, 5)B, 6)B, 7)C Bonus Question) C

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 _____


Pine Siskin

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, Inc., 225 Varick Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10014, Attn: Chance Mueleck
 [This is a new address, revised 9/11/2015. Prevent delay in processing your membership by not using an old form.]

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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. 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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Siskiyou Audubon Society

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Pine Siskin
by Joy Taylor



Pileated Woodpecker (male)

Photo by Phil Hicks

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Volunteers are needed for Kids' Nest Box Building
Thurs. Nov. 5th during Smile Night at
Evergreen Elementary School in Cave Junction
Sign up with Lee Webb or Fran Taylor. Thanks!

Date Book – October / November 2015

Fri. Oct. 2: Siskiyou Field Institute Free Fall Friday Night Learning – Field Guide to Manzanitas, 6:30 p.m.

Sat. Oct. 3: Umpqua Valley Audubon Society Field Trip - Sutherlin Sites 8 a.m.

Tues. Oct. 6, 13 & 20: Hawks! Class at North Mountain Park, Ashland, 7 p.m.

Sat.-Sun. Oct. 3-4: Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, WA - 16th Annual BirdFest & Bluegrass Celebration

Wed. Oct. 7: Rogue Valley Audubon Society First Wednesday Bird Walk at Agate Lake

Thurs. Oct. 8: Siskiyou Audubon Society Chapter Meeting, 6 - 8:30 p.m. Program: Belize

Fri. Oct. 9: SFI Free Fall Friday Night Learning – Climate Change

Sat. Oct. 10: UVAS Field Trip– Happy Valley Boat Ramp 8:45 a.m.

& RVAS Field Trip – Lost Creek Lake & Holy Water 8 a.m.

Wed. Oct 14 & 21: Learning About Birds Classes at North Mountain Park, Ashland 6:30 p.m.

Fri. Oct. 16: SAS Field Trip to Upper Table Rock

Sat. Oct. 17: UVAS Diamond Lake Boat Trip

Fri. Oct. 23: UVAS Field Trip – Ford's Pond 8 a.m.

Wed. Nov. 4: RVAS First Wednesday Bird Walk at Agate Lake

Thurs. Nov. 5: SAS Kids' Nest Box Building at Evergreen Elementary School in Cave Junction, SMILE Night

Tues. Nov. 10: Attracting & Feeding Birds in Your Yard Class at North Mountain Park, Ashland, 6:30 p.m.

Thurs. Nov. 12: SAS Chapter Meeting, 6 - 8:30 p.m. Program: Patagonia

Fri. Nov. 20: SFI Free Fall Friday Night Learning – Edible & Medicinal Plants of California

Alternate Saturdays November 14 & 28 and continuing through March 20156:

Project FeederWatch at North Mountain Park, Ashland



Pine Siskin
by Rosie Anderson