



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 to 8:30 p.m. in Room 400 at Grants Pass High School, 830 NE 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Grants Pass. Refreshments are served. Please bring your own coffee mug to help us hold down costs. We hope you will join us at one of our informal meetings.

## Chapter Meeting Thursday, February 9, 2017 – 6 to 8:30 p.m.

### Program: Tanagers of the Americas by John & Joy Taylor

With a complement of 283 species, the Tanagers rank number one in the species count, the most in any family of birds. Only hummingbirds come close with about 250. There are 23 species of tanagers which are currently threatened. Genetic studies have shown that several species originally thought to be in the tanager family are now considered to be in the cardinal family, while other species of passerines (perching songbirds) are now considered to be in the tanager family.

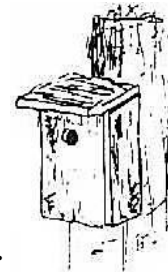


Western Tanager – One of the most strikingly colored birds that can be found in Josephine Co. In Spring and Summer. The red pigment in the face is obtained through eating insects, their primary food source.  
Photo by Zia Fukuda 2012

Did you know that Tanagers do not drink like other birds by tipping their heads back, but rather drink straight away, as though using a straw? Come and see the unique Shrike-tanagers and the Hemispingus genus of warbler-like Tanagers. This show will provide many more interesting facts about the Tanagers of the Americas.

John and Joy Taylor are Siskiyou Audubon Society members who have a life list of 947 species world-wide. John has a diploma in Bird Biology from the Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology. He joined the San Fernando Audubon Society in 1960. He and Joy have been birding together for the past 38 years. Their birding travels have taken them to Alaska, Canada, the United States, Mexico, Costa Rica, the Hawaiian Islands and Egypt. We hope you will join us!

**Nest Box Building Day (for Adults)**  
**Saturday, February 25, 2017 – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
**Grants Pass High School Wood Shop**  
Details inside on Page 5



## Chapter Meeting Thursday, March 9, 2017 – 6 to 8:30 p.m.

### Program: "Coastal Conservation Issues & Strategies: The Land-Sea Connection" by Paul Englemeyer

Paul Englemeyer has directed Audubon's Ten Mile Creek Conservation Program since 1990. That includes education, land stewardship, acquisition and advocacy. In the early 1990's, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Audubon, the local community and the Siuslaw National Forest developed a partnership that grew into a basin-wide protection and restoration program, which eventually led to a national award in 2005.

In 1994, Englemeyer helped form the MidCoast Watersheds Council which works with the local basin planning teams, federal and state partners, and the timber and agricultural interests to protect and restore over 1 million acres in five different watersheds in the Coast Range Bioregion.

Audubon Society of Portland's Ocean Conservation Program focuses his efforts on the Central Coast Marbled Murrelet Important Bird Area (IBA) which was recently designated a Globally Significant IBA. This 80,000 acre landscape unit encompasses the area from north of Yachats south through Cummins Wilderness, Ten Mile Creek, as well as Rock Creek Wilderness. Englemeyer was the statewide conservation representative on the Ocean Policy Advisory Council for two terms. One of the key issues facing this advisory body was to develop a system of marine reserves that protect marine biodiversity. He and local partners developed the proposal for the Heceta Perpetua Marine Reserve, Marine Protected Area, and Seabird Protection Area, which is one of the five areas in Oregon's near-shore that make up the backbone of a network of Marine Reserves that went into effect January 2014.



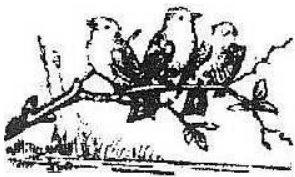
Paul Englemeyer  
ASOP 10-Mile Sanctuary



Quail by Kirsten Munson

#### 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

Pacifica ‘Winter Fest’ was Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>. Siskiyou Audubon held a Kids’ Nest Box Building event while dozens of other crafters, artists and musicians celebrated the season. Kids built 17 bird houses from our kits. We also sold some items. Thanks to Peg and Ray Prag and all the folks of Pacifica Garden in the Siskiyou for a fine event.

The SAS Christmas pot luck on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> was a success with about 27 people attending. A big thank you to Alan Ome our host. SAS provided the ham, and the members brought all the rest of the feast. Phil & Marsha Hicks were honored by President Susan Bush for their service to Audubon with a plaque and a gift of movie tickets.

The Chapter Meeting in January was well attended despite the inclement weather at the time, most of the snow having vanished by Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Gabriela Chavarria’s program on pollinators was well received and very interesting, especially her first-person stories of the problem of *las chuparosas*. Read the Winter 2016 issue of Audubon magazine for the full story on these Mexican love charms made from the carcasses of hummingbirds (*chuparosas* in Spanish), as well as for a behind-the-scenes look at Dr. Pepper Trail’s workshop in the U.S. Fish & Wildlife National Forensic Laboratory in Ashland, of which Dr. Chavarria is the Forensic Science Branch Chief.

The CBC results were submitted January 18<sup>th</sup> with 101 species found. It did turn out to be the coldest day of December. Luckily there was no snow or rain, just freezing fog and temperatures. The Grants Pass Circle results appear on Page 6; Illinois Valley results will be published next month. You can get all the results at [www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count](http://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count). [Scroll down to the owl in the snow and click on ‘CBC Results’. Then click on ‘Current year’ at the top of the page, and select the country, state and Circle that you wish. There are other search options available as well.]

SAS will make some organizational revisions next year (2017 CBC), including more prior publicity, and identification vests for team leaders, so people will know who all the strange folks with binoculars are, milling around Grants Pass and Josephine County.

At the Board meeting in January, the news came that Pacifica is requesting donations to buy a new trailer for The Caterpillar mobile natural history classroom. The old trailer is breaking down, with dry rot in the floors and other faults, too numerous and expensive to repair. It was approved that SAS donate \$1,000 for this project, with the proviso that our sponsorship sign be moved onto the new Caterpillar. To donate to Pacifica for a new Caterpillar, go to [pacificagarden.org/caterpillar](http://pacificagarden.org/caterpillar).

Upcoming SAS events: Adult Nest Box Building Day at Grants Pass High School is scheduled for February 25, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Details on page 5. This is our production day, when we make finished houses for sale, and kits for use later on. Please, no children under age 12. In the spring we will hold ‘Kids’ Nest Box Building’ events – see page 5 for those already scheduled.

There are tentative plans for a Spring Migration bird walk in May in Josephine County. Details remain to be worked out. Watch the next issue of The Siskin for more activities in spring and summer. Thank You! Members, for supporting your Chapter of Audubon.

### Allen Dale Elementary FIRST LEGO Challenge Team

Tomorrow’s innovators practice imaginative thinking and teamwork. Guided by adult Coaches, FIRST LEGO League teams research a real-world problem, and are challenged to develop a solution. They also must design, build, and program a robot using LEGO MINDSTORMS® technology, then compete on a table-top playing field.

It all adds up to tons of fun while they learn to apply science, technology, engineering, and math concepts (STEM), plus a big dose of imagination, to solve a problem. Along their discovery journey, they develop critical thinking and team-building skills, basic STEM applications, and even presentation skills, as they must present their solutions with a dash of creativity to judges. They also practice the Program’s signature Core Values. For more information about this program, visit [www.firstlegoleague.org/challenge](http://www.firstlegoleague.org/challenge).

In 2016, eight Allen Dale Elementary School students participated in the FIRST LEGO League Challenge, theme “Animal Allies.” Their animal of choice was bats, and their Project was to find a solution to White Nose Syndrome in Bats. The kids were led by teacher Kristi Roe and aide Karen Smaw. They called upon Siskiyou Audubon Society to help in their research, and on October 25, Shirley Bredahl and Fran Taylor met with the team to answer their questions about bats and White Nose Syndrome and to provide some resource materials for the kids to use. The team’s season was September – December 2016, and the tournament was Saturday, December 10 in Grants Pass.

The eight members of the team are Kellie Imel, Lauren Robinson, Katelyn Tousley, Reagan Belnap, Seth Snider, Billy Henshall, Mildred Chhea, and Chloe Jane Wright. Although the Allen Dale team didn’t win the top prize, they had good marks on their Project. They learned a lot and had a very good time.



### Do You Know Your Birds’ Eggs?

- Question 1     How many hummingbird eggs would it take to equal the weight of an ostrich egg?
- Question 2     Which bird has the largest egg-to-body size ratio?
- Question 3     Which bird lays its eggs in the middle of winter?
- Question 4     Which bird lays just one egg?
- Question 5     Which bird’s egg is fastest to hatch?

Answers on Page 4

## Give Your Old Binoculars New Life

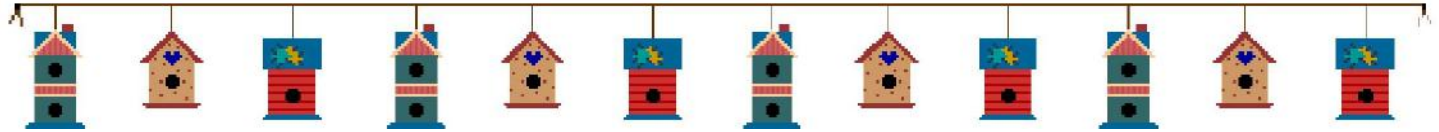
Do you have a used pair of binoculars lying around collecting dust? Perhaps you upgraded this holiday and are looking for a use for your old one? Consider donating your used, quality optics to teachers and kids in the Amazon Rainforest.

For several years, the Cornell Lab's [BirdSleuth](http://www.birdsleuth.org) program ([www.birdsleuth.org](http://www.birdsleuth.org)) has worked with Peruvian bird guides and teachers to bring hands-on activities and citizen science to remote schools along the Amazon River. The kids need binoculars to successfully contribute their data to eBird, and our partners are stepping in to help.

Learn about the kind of binoculars they are looking for, and how you can make your tax-deductible binocular donation at [www.amazonworkshops.com](http://www.amazonworkshops.com).



Image Courtesy of [BirdSleuth](http://BirdSleuth)



## A Goose Story

Seen in a newsletter . . .

Officer James Givens has served with the Cincinnati Police Department for over 26 years, but has never quite experienced anything like this before. He was sitting in his patrol car in a parking lot when he got an unexpected visitor.

A goose came up to his car and started pecking on the side of it. He threw food out for her, thinking that's what she wanted, but she didn't take it. She continued to peck and quack, then walked away, stopped, and looked back at Officer Givens.



Then she came back to his car and pecked at it again. She made it very obvious that she wanted Officer Givens to follow her, so he finally got out of his car and did just that.

The goose led him 100 yards away to a grassy area near a creek. Sitting there was one of her babies, tangled up in a balloon string. The baby was kicking its feet, desperate for help.

Being wary of helping the baby on his own, and worried that the goose might attack him, Givens called for help from the SPCA, but no wildlife rescuers were available at the moment.

Luckily, Givens's colleague, Officer Cecilia Charron, came to help. She began to untangle the baby, and the mother goose just stood there and watched, while quacking. She didn't become aggressive, and just let Officer Charron do what she had to do to set the baby free. It was like the mother goose knew they were helping. Once Charron untangled the baby, she set it down and it ran right to its mom, and they went right back to swimming in the creek.



Charron teared up and said it was the highlight of her 24 years on the force.

"It seems like something made up."

It was just incredible," Givens said.

"I honestly don't know why I

decided to follow her, but I did. It

makes me wonder – do they know

to turn to humans when they need

help?"

We may never know the answer to this

question, but what we do know is that

Officer Givens was in the right place at the

right time to help these geese. Life is precious! A great story!



~Submitted by *Phil Hicks*



The Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology's bird egg collection. Audubon Society Photo: Frans Lanting/Corbis



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

### Rogue Valley Audubon Society First Wednesday Bird Count at Agate Lake February 1 and March 1, 2017 – 8:30 a.m.

On the first Wednesday of every month, Rogue Valley Audubon Society conducts a bird count at Agate Lake in Jackson County, Hwy.140 about two miles east of the corner of Hwy.62. Coordinator and leader of the First Wednesday walk is Murray Orr.

The slow-paced walk begins at 8:30 a.m. and covers about 1.5 miles over about 2.5 hours. Meet by the gate on the EAST side of the lake – Enter from Dry Creek Road.

This is an ongoing citizen science project to record the numbers of the different species observed by the walk participants. The data is entered in the Cornell Ornithological Laboratory's 'e-Bird' database. You don't need to be an experienced birder to join in, but taking part will help you become one. Please contact Murray if you have questions or for more information: 541-857-9050, or [mworr2@charter.net](mailto:mworr2@charter.net).



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

For a close-up look at birds of the Rogue Valley, attend one of the Project FeederWatch sessions per the schedule below.

Rogue Valley Audubon requests experienced birders to volunteer to lead Project FeederWatch sessions through the end of March. To volunteer at North Mountain Park, e-mail Mary Pat Power at: [marypat@ashlandhome.net](mailto:marypat@ashlandhome.net); for Coyote Trails, it's Wendy Gere at: [wendy.gere@gmail.com](mailto:wendy.gere@gmail.com).

#### PROJECT FEEDER WATCH SCHEDULES

North Mountain Park, Ashland, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., Saturdays:  
February 4 & 18, and March 4 & 18, 2017.

Coyote Trails Nature Center, Medford, Noon to 1 p.m. Thursdays & Fridays: February 9-10 & 23-24, and March 9-10 & 23-24, 2017.

#### \*\* Valuable New Website \*\*

Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife has a new website devoted to species and habitat conservation in our state.

'The Oregon Conservation Strategy'

Check it out at <http://oregonconservationstrategy.org>

Answers to Birds' Egg Trivia Questions on page 2:

1. Over 2,000 hummingbird eggs (.02 oz.) Are required to equal the weight of one ostrich egg (3 lbs.).
2. The biggest egg for the size of the mother is that of the Kiwi. It is a third of the weight of the bird, 5" long, & weighs as much as 1 lb. This would be the equivalent of an ostrich laying an 88 lb. egg.
3. The Emperor Penguin.
4. The Laysan Albatross lays just one egg per mating cycle, which may not occur every year. It mates for life and has a lifespan of 50-60 years, reaching sexual maturity at age 10-15.
5. Hummingbirds sit on their eggs for only 8-12 days.

### Save the Dates for the Harney County Migratory Bird Festival Saturday - Sunday April 8- 9, 2017



Cinnamon Teal  
by Randy Hunn for Ducks  
Unlimited, 2011

The Harney County Migratory Bird Festival offers a variety of activities and spectacular bird watching opportunities for enthusiasts. Over 100 species of birds can be viewed during the festival located in the high desert of east-central Oregon near Burns. The festival occurs during the height of the spring Sandhill Crane, waterfowl and shorebird migrations along the Pacific Flyway.

The 2017 Featured Speaker is author and photographer Noah Strycker. Noah completed a Big Year of birding in 2015 and set a new world record of 6,042 species observed around the world, and will talk about his Big Year adventure on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.

Registration opens February 13<sup>th</sup> at their website:

[www.migratorybirdfestival.com](http://www.migratorybirdfestival.com),  
which also provides more details.

## Olympic Peninsula April 7-9, 2017 BirdFest Come bird with us!



- ▣ San Juan Island Cruise
- ▣ Neah Bay Birding Excursion
- ▣ Guided Birding Trips
- ▣ Bird Drawing Class
- ▣ Photography Workshop
- ▣ Gala Banquet with Speaker  
Bonnie Block

For more information:  
[www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org)  
[info@olympicbirdfest.org](mailto:info@olympicbirdfest.org)  
or 360-681-4076



For lodging and visitor information,  
call 800-942-4042 or click  
[www.olympicpeninsula.org](http://www.olympicpeninsula.org)



[www.visitsunnysequim.com](http://www.visitsunnysequim.com)  
800-737-8462

## ... Classes & Outings



*Klamath Basin*  
**WINTER WINGS**  
**FESTIVAL**  
**FEB. 16-19, 2017**  
FEATURING PAUL BANNICK,  
CHAS GLATZER, &  
SCOTT WEIDENSAUL  
*WinterWingsFest.org*

Art by David Haupt

Produced by Klamath Basin Audubon Society  
Registration Is Open  
Telephone 1-877-541-BIRD (2473)  
E-mail: [info@winterwingsfest.org](mailto:info@winterwingsfest.org)  
Website: [winterwingsfest.org](http://winterwingsfest.org)

### Wild Birds Unlimited, Medford Monthly Educational Talks

Educational talks are held every month at the Wild Birds Unlimited store in Medford. As space is very limited, please come in or call to reserve your seat: 961 Medford Center, 541-772-2107.

**Wed., February 22, 2017, 6-7 p.m.**  
**"Bird Banding, the How and Why"**

Presented by Robert Frey  
Research Biologist with KBO



### Siskiyou Field Institute Early Birding Classes

**Saturday-Sunday, February 25-26, 2017 – Gull I.D. Workshop**

**Instructor: Russ Namitz**

Meet in Crescent City, CA

This weekend-long workshop is for mid-level birders who generally know their adult gull species but want to sharpen their skills distinguishing species of various ages and plumages. We will visit several coastal sites in and near Crescent City to observe gull behavior and species differences in morphology. Along with gulls, we will see other shorebirds and some marine mammals.

Meet at the Battery Point Lighthouse parking lot at the north jetty in Crescent City. From there we will travel north to Alexander Dairy and the agricultural fields of Smith River to look for gulls.

**Sunday, March 5, 2017 – Raptors of the Klamath Basin**

**Instructor: Bud Widdowson**

Meet at Lower Klamath Wildlife Refuge, Tulelake, CA

This will be a day-long trip by car, with plenty of stops. In this late winter raptor-watching trip to the Klamath Basin, we hope to see eagles, hawks and allies foraging and perhaps exhibiting breeding behaviors. Our focus will be on the field identification and natural history of raptors, but we may also encounter owls, waterfowl, shorebirds and other migratory birds along the way.

*\*Early Birding Tuition Special\**

Gull I.D. Workshop \*Plus\* Raptors of the Klamath Basin - \$150

For details and to get a course catalog, and to register for these or any other SFI classes, go to their website: [thesfi.org](http://thesfi.org); phone 541-597-8530; or travel to Deer Creek Center, 1241 Illinois River Rd., Selma.

**Siskiyou Audubon Society  
Nest Box Building Day  
Saturday, February 25, 2017  
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**Grants Pass High School Wood Shop**

Come to help Siskiyou Audubon Society build the nest boxes and kits that we use to raise money for our Chapter and to educate children in the arts of birding & building. The wood shop is on the north end of campus, at NE 8<sup>th</sup> & NE School Streets.

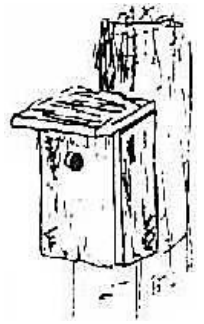
This is our Adult building day – no young children, please. We will hold building days for them in the coming months, as per the schedule below.

At this event we will be using power tools, hammers and nails to build Siskiyou Audubon Basic Bird Houses, suitable for nesting swallows, chickadees, bluebirds, nuthatches and other species in Josephine County.

Bring your own hammer, gloves, hearing protection, bag lunch and what to drink. If you can lift 5# or wield a hammer, you can help us. Siskiyou Audubon will supply the nails, lumber, and auxiliary tools.

If you have a pickup truck you may be able to help haul the finished boxes to the stores that sell them.

For more details, phone Lee Webb at 541-479-6859 or Phil Hicks at 541-474-4457.



### SAS Kids' Nest Box Building Days

**Saturday, March 11, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

at Wild Birds Unlimited in Medford

**Saturday, March 18, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

at Grants Pass Growers' Market

**Saturday, April 18, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

at Grants Pass Growers' Market

More dates to be announced.



Bald Eagles  
Photo by K. M. Pyle

## Results of the Grants Pass Christmas Bird Count – December 17, 2016

Twenty-five bird watchers went out into the cold morning of Saturday, December 17, 2016 and counted 101 species of birds in the 117<sup>th</sup> Audubon Christmas Bird Count, Grants Pass Circle. Thanks to each of you for braving the cold, but not snowy, day. (Starting temperature was 20°F, and the high for the day was 35°, and except for some freezing fog, there was no precipitation.) Birds observed:

Species	Number	Species	Number
Greater White-fronted Goose	5	Northern Flicker (Red-shafted)	56
Canada Goose	1711	Pileated Woodpecker	1
Cackling/Canada Goose	4	American Kestrel	18
Wood Duck	68	Merlin	3
Gadwall	2	Black Phoebe	16
American Wigeon	316	Hutton's Vireo	2
Mallard	458	Steller's Jay	59
Northern Shoveler	82	Western Scrub-Jay	139
Green-winged Teal	37	American Crow	574
Canvasback	1	Common Raven	68
Ring-necked Duck	63	Black-capped Chickadee	106
Lesser Scaup	4	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	3
Bufflehead	202	Oak Titmouse	12
Common Goldeneye	16	Bushtit	25
Hooded Merganser	75	White-breasted Nuthatch	26
Common Merganser	17	Brown Creeper	19
Ruddy Duck	6	Pacific/Winter Wren	3
California Quail	53	Marsh Wren	2
Wild Turkey	131	Bewick's Wren	1
Pied-billed Grebe	45	American Dipper	1
Western Grebe	2	Golden-crowned Kinglet	37
Double-crested Cormorant	27	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	44
Great Blue Heron (Blue form)	33	Wrentit	4
Great Egret	36	Western Bluebird	49
Black-crowned Night-Heron	4	Hermit Thrush	6
White-tailed Kite	1	American Robin	280
Northern Harrier	4	European Starling	915
Cooper's Hawk	4	Fox Sparrow	11
Bald Eagle	4	Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	668
Red-shouldered Hawk	20	White-crowned Sparrow	108
Red-tailed Hawk	18	Golden-crowned Sparrow	474
Virginia Rail	4	White-throated Sparrow	3
Sora	2	Savannah Sparrow	6
American Coot	333	Song Sparrow	25
Killdeer	29	Lincoln's Sparrow	1
Spotted Sandpiper	1	California Towhee	5
Wilson's Snipe	11	Spotted Towhee	146
Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)	268	Red-winged Blackbird	25
Eurasian Collared-Dove	74	Western Meadowlark	3
Mourning Dove	49	Brewer's Blackbird	450
Barn Owl	2	House Finch	48
Anna's Hummingbird	30	Purple Finch	1
Belted Kingfisher	9	Lesser Goldfinch	169
Acorn Woodpecker	59	American Goldfinch	7
Red-breasted Sapsucker	7	House Sparrow	29
Downy Woodpecker	25		
Hairy Woodpecker	14		

Total Species Reported	101
Total Individuals	9014



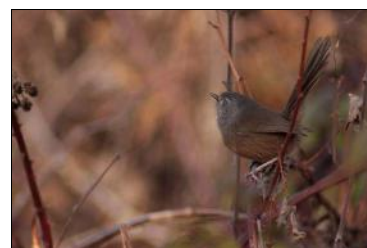
Canada Goose & Cackler Goose  
(small form of Canada)  
Photo: John Etchells 12-17-16



California Towhee  
Photo: Charles Thrash 12-10-16




Hooded Merganser Pair  
Photo: John Etchells 12-17-16



Wrentit  
Photo: Andy Mechling

## 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, 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.

#### Officers

President: Susan Bush.....	Term Expires June 2017
Vice-President: Shirley Bredahl.....	” ” June 2018
Secretary: Margaret James.....	” ” June 2018
Treasurer: Phil Hicks .....	” ” June 2017

#### Directors

Marsha Hicks.....	” ” June 2017
Alan Ome. ....	” ” June 2018
Susan Perry. ....	” ” June 2018

..... Revised Aug. 17, 2016

#### Email Addresses & Phone Numbers

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Pat Etchells. ....	<a href="mailto:sisqaudubon@gmail.com">sisqaudubon@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
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#### Conservation

**Parks** – Boyd Peters

#### Education

**Programs** – Joy Taylor

**Membership** – Lee Webb

**Web Master** – Pat Etchells

**Publicity** – John Taylor, Margaret James

#### Ornithologist

Dennis Vroman

#### Publications

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Mailing List – Lee Webb

Distribution – Officers and the Board of Directors

# The Siskin

## Siskiyou Audubon Society

Newsletter Number 283 – February / March 2017

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Pine Siskin  
by Joy Taylor

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## The 2017 Great Backyard Bird Count

### How many birds will you find?



20th Annual  
Great Backyard  
Bird Count

February 17-20, 2017

Golden-crowned  
Kinglet. Photo: Nick  
Saunders/GBBC

For How to Count and Complete Instructions  
Visit [gbbc.birdcount.org](http://gbbc.birdcount.org)

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### Date Book – February / March 2017

Feb. 1 Wed.: Rogue Valley Audubon Society First Wednesday Bird Count at Agate Lake, Jackson County, 8:30 a.m.

**Feb. 9 Thurs.: Siskiyou Audubon Society Chapter meeting 6 p.m.** Program: “Tanagers of the Americas” by John & Joy Taylor

Feb. 15 Wed.: Siskiyou Audubon Board of Directors meeting, 11 a.m.; also

Registration opens for Birding & Blues Festival, Pacific City, April

Feb. 16-19 Thurs.-Sun.: Winter Wings Festival, Klamath Falls

Feb. 17-20 Fri.-Mon.: Great Backyard Bird Count

Feb. 20 Mon.: Siskiyou Field Institute Winter Day Camp for Kids on President’s Day, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Feb. 22 Wed.: Wild Birds Unlimited, Medford: Educational Talk, Bird Banding, 6 - 7 p.m.

**Feb. 25 Sat.: SAS Adult Nest Box Building Day at Grants Pass High School Wood Shop, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Feb. 25-26, Sat.-Sun.: SFI Class: Gull I.D. Workshop in Crescent City, CA, with Russ Namitz

Mar. 1 Wed.: RVAS First Wednesday Bird Count at Agate Lake, Jackson County, 8:30 a.m.

Mar. 5 Sun.: SFI Class: Raptors of the Klamath Basin at Lower Klamath Wildlife Refuge, Tulelake, CA, with Bud Widdowson

**Mar. 9 Thurs.: Siskiyou Audubon Society Chapter meeting, 6 p.m.** Program by Paul Englemeyer: “Coastal Conservation Issues and Strategies: The Land-Sea Connection”

**Mar. 11 Sat.: SAS Nest Box Building for Kids** at Wild Birds Unlimited, Medford, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; also Josephine County Master Gardeners’ “Seeds of Spring” Seminar, Rogue Community College

**Mar. 18 Sat.: SAS Nest Box Building for Kids** at Grants Pass Growers’ Market, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Save these April dates:

8-9, Sat.-Sun.: Harney County Birding Festival

21-25, Fri.-Tues.: Birding & Blues Festival, Pacific City, Oregon (Tillamook Coast)

On-going through February & March:



### Project FeederWatch

An annual survey of birds that visit feeders in winter

CORNELL LAB OF ORNITHOLOGY



Pine Siskin  
by Rosie Anderson

Siskiyou Audubon Society is Independent Chapter No. T61  
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