

## Birding Basics for Beginners

Do you find yourself listening to an odd chirp while walking or gardening? Are you fascinated by the random rustlings in the bushes? Do you notice and enjoy the birds in your world, but wish you knew more about these clever and busy neighbors? This is just the class for you! Participants will learn how birds behave so it will be easier to find, watch, and identify the type you are seeing. Bird identification, adaptations, and habitat will be introduced. Birds of the Oregon Coast will be our focus during this 4-week class. Participants will have access to bird guides and binoculars and will learn how to use them. The final day of class will be a field trip to identify birds in the area.

Caren Willoughby, Mark Elliott, Laura Doyle, and Patty Sorensen are members of the Audubon Society of Lincoln City. Caren and Laura have spent many hours visiting classrooms in Tillamook and Lincoln County schools presenting "Wild About Birds" to elementary school children. They also participate in monthly bird walks offered by the Audubon Society of Lincoln City.



## Getting Down to Birding Basics at Oregon Coast Community College

by Laura Doyle

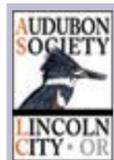
**Back by Popular Demand:** ASLC Volunteers teach "Birding Basics" at Oregon Coast Community College in January 2013.

Caren Willoughby, Mark Elliott, Patty Sorensen, and Laura Doyle of Audubon Society of Lincoln City are excited to be back at OCCC in Lincoln City for another 'Birding Basics' course in January. Description and details on the OCCC 'Birding Basics' January 2013 class are to the left and below. The first ASLC/OCCC 'Birding Basics' class last October filled quickly with a waiting list, so OCCC and ASLC realized that there is a lot of public interest in birds and bird watching.

January's course includes three 1 1/2-hour classroom sessions plus a local field trip. The class allows students to learn about and practice their knowledge of bird anatomy, habitat, and behavior to identify and enjoy local birds. The class also provides "hands-on" experience with selecting and using field guides and binoculars to observe birds. "This class is so much fun for us as instructors," said Caren Willoughby. "It was just great to be able to share our enthusiasm and experience, and we are looking forward to doing the class again."

Visit: [www.lincolncityaudubon.org](http://www.lincolncityaudubon.org)

BIRDING BASICS			
CRN:	1058714	Course ID:	XBI0001A-Z1
Term:	Winter Term 2012/13	Credits/Hours:	0/8T
Instructor:	S. STAFF		
Dates:	01/15/2013 - 01/24/2013	Days:	TuTh
Times:	1:30PM - 3:00PM	Location:	NC-124
Estimated Tuition:	\$25.00	Estimated Fees:	\$0.00
Notes:	•Please contact Janice Redford at 541 996-6222 or email <a href="mailto:jredford@occc.cc.or.us">jredford@occc.cc.or.us</a> for information and/or registration.		



P.O. Box 38  
Lincoln City  
Oregon 97367



Be sure to visit [www.lincolncityaudubon.org](http://www.lincolncityaudubon.org) for more news and activities of the Audubon Society of Lincoln City

Audubon Society of Lincoln City is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax-exempt #20-3795649

## Black Phoebe, A Rare Sight To See In These Parts!

This small member of the Flycatcher has been seen recently in the Lincoln County area. Its normal range is south of the Oregon border. Be on the lookout! It's in the same habitat as Golden-crowned Sparrows, Townsend's Warblers and other small birds that flit amongst the brush near streams and along the edges of woodlands.



They are quick and have a lovely song which sometimes gives them away amongst the briars. Two sightings were recently reported near the Taft area of Lincoln City and on Drift Creek Road. Check out . . .

[http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black\\_Phoebe/id](http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black_Phoebe/id) for detailed information.

## Bird Photographs and Watchers Wanted

Project Feederwatch is another fun way to participate in learning bird identification. AND this site allows you to enter your bird feeder photos. Each week someone's photo is chosen as the best representation of the week's theme. Try it out!

<http://projectfeederwatch.wordpress.com/page/2/>

PLUS, be sure to consider participating in their Project Feederwatch program which goes until April 5.

[https://store.birds.cornell.edu/Project\\_FeederWatch\\_s/42.htm](https://store.birds.cornell.edu/Project_FeederWatch_s/42.htm)

A minimal fee allows them to send you informational materials and a tally sheet.



## Winter Birding Sites

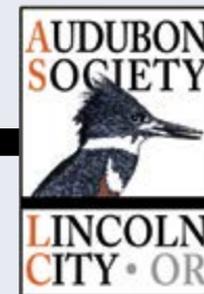
Many of us enjoy river, lake and ocean habitats in winter to view migrating sea birds and waterfowl. Don't forget that Lincoln County also hosts a wide variety of woodland/marsh birds. Walking down country roads with meadows and roadside brush may surprise you. As you drive along watch for those "little brown jobs" in the brushy areas. Park your car in a safe spot and wander along the roadside. You might be pleasantly surprised with the various LBJs you see.



## Time to Polish Your Birding Skills

On our rainy winter days, spend some time with your computer improving your birding skills. This Cornell Lab quiz is a fun way to learn more about the species we can see in the Pacific NW. It provides you with a video, the bird's call and a clue. Are you an "expert"?

<http://www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/birding123/identify/quiz>



## The King's Corner



Winter birding has its advantages. With no leaves on our branches, it is easy to spot and photograph them.

I again thought about the birds we have in this area that are not seen in other parts of the country. This is a partial list: Pelagic and Brandt's Cormorants, Anna's Hummingbird, Brant, Whimbrel, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Wrentit, Steller's Jay, Western Gull, Pacific Wren, Band-tailed Pigeon and Black Oystercatcher. Now the next time you see one of these birds just think how lucky you are. I was surprised to read that the Oystercatcher is declining and Audubon has listed it as threatened. Have you noticed the large flocks of Pine Siskins this year. It appears that this happens every few years and cannot be predicted. Since they feed on the Alder seeds, it is easy to see them.

Local membership has doubled since our last newsletter. Thank you all for either renewing or becoming a new member. We only mail this newsletter to our local members but it is available to everyone on our website, [www.LincolnCityAudubon.org](http://www.LincolnCityAudubon.org).

Our field trips last year were outstanding and well-attended. Check out the ones we have planned for 2013 posted in this newsletter. If you have some special place we have not yet visited, let us know and we will try to schedule it in. I understand the Snowy Owl has been spotted in Astoria so keep your eyes open and let us know if you spot one.

- Jack Doyle, ASLC President

# The Kingfisher

Volume 7, Issue 2 Central Oregon Coast - Garibaldi to Yachats Winter 2012

## Christmas Bird Count 2013

by Patty Sorensen

The ASLC is pleased to announce that we are going to be participating in National Audubon's Christmas Bird Count in 2013. Some years ago, this area participated, but not recently. This year we have determined the specific areas to be covered. We are doing a trial run with board members in order to ensure that the routes are successful.

The CBC count circle will cover areas from Fogarty Creek to Cascade Head. It should be an exciting area to gather this data since we have a wide variety of habitat: ocean, lake, rivers, wetlands, and forest. After our route revisions in January, we will begin the process of registering with the

National Audubon Society to become an official CBC site.

Check out 2012's count at <http://birds.audubon.org/christmas-bird-count>. The Newport area's Yaquina Birders have been participating for many years. Several ASLC members help with that count. It is a fun day for camaraderie and learning bird ID from one another...especially if the weather cooperates.

We look forward to being able to share this ASLC event with you in 2013. For more information, contact any of the board members. AND be sure to let us know if you are interested in participating next year! ASLC phone: 541-992-0440.

## Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC)

After 15 years of success in North America, the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) will open up to the entire world for the first time in 2013. Anyone, from anywhere on earth, can participate by visiting [www.bird-count.org](http://www.bird-count.org) and reporting the kinds and numbers of birds they see during the 16th annual count, February 15-18, 2013.

A joint project of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, with partner Bird Studies Canada, the four-day count typically receives sightings from tens of thousands of people reporting more than 600 bird species in the United States and Canada alone.

"This year's count will give us a whole new perspective as sightings pour in from around the globe in real time," said Marshall Iliff at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. "Millions of people encounter birds every day all over the world. Imagine what scientists will learn if each one of us shares observations from our own area!"

During the 2012 count, participants reported 17.4 million bird observations on 104,000 checklists. Snowy Owls thrilled many participants when these striking birds-of-prey ventured south from the Arctic in record numbers. In 2013, scientists predict that U.S. and Canadian bird watchers will see an influx of Red-breasted Nuthatches and winter finches (such as Pine Siskins) because of scarce food supplies on their northern wintering grounds. Participating is easy. Simply watch birds for at least 15 minutes at the location of your choice on one or more of the count days. Estimate the number of birds you see for each species you can identify. You'll select your location on a map, answer a few questions, enter your tallies, and then submit your data to share your sightings with others around the world. The global capacity for the count will be powered by eBird, an online checklist program for all of the world's 10,240 bird species. Participants will be able to view what others are seeing on interactive maps, keep their own records, and have their tallies recorded for perpetuity.

**Join Audubon Society of Lincoln City (ASLC), and take part in the education and appreciation of the birds, wildlife, and their habitats along mid-coastal Oregon**

As a Paid Member, your donation aids in supporting our environmental education in the school systems and our citizen science programs. It enables us to participate in restoration and public advocacy projects throughout the central Oregon coast.

Be a Volunteer, and help implement the goals of our Society, including field trips, research, education and public events. To volunteer your time and service, call ASLC at 541-992-0440.

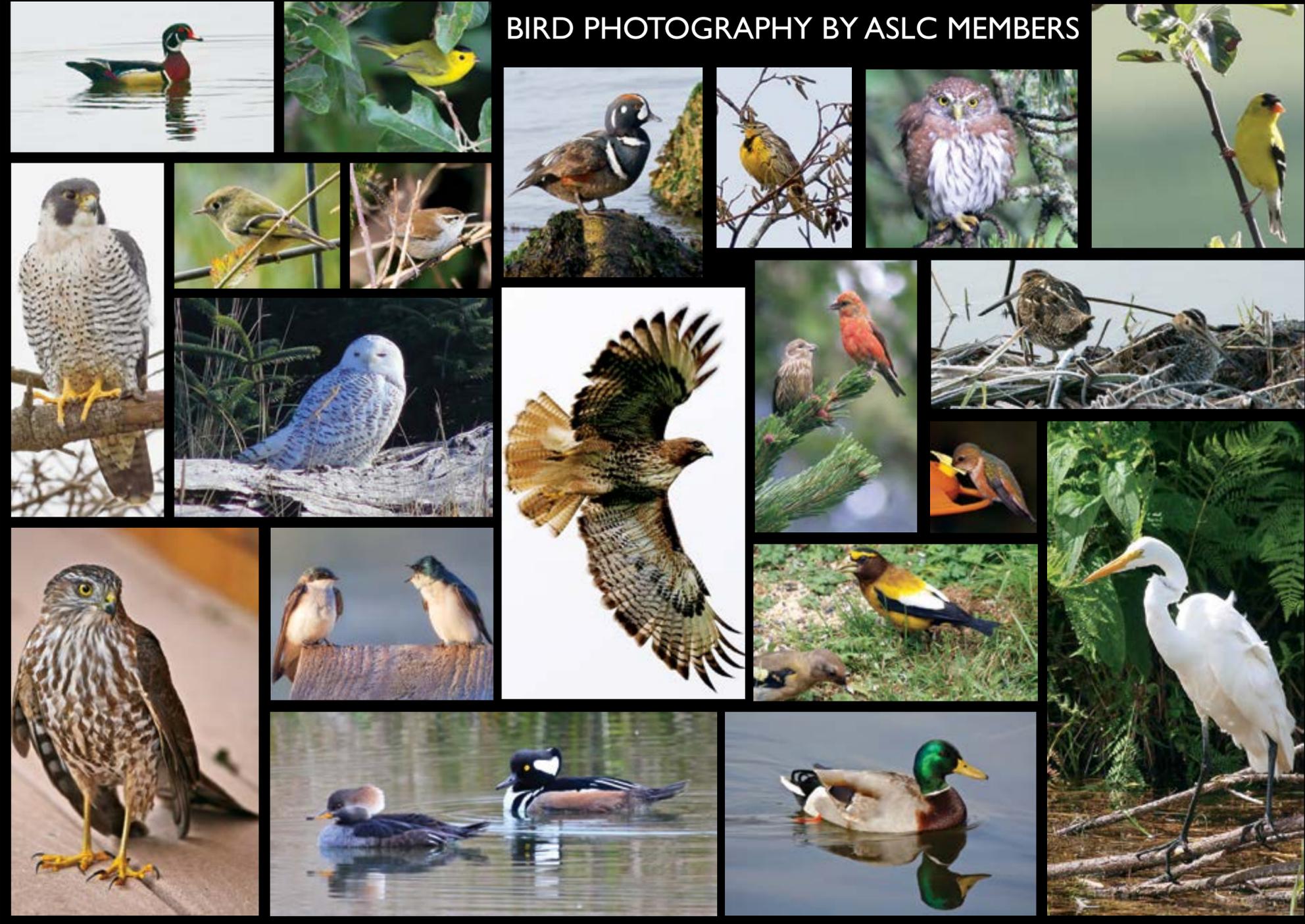
We are a non-profit organization. As a VIP Sponsor, you and your organization will be recognized as a tremendous help to Audubon Society of Lincoln City in presenting educational and rewarding Special Events to family members of all ages.

**Come, join us as we explore and discover the many splendors of the natural world around us. Your membership makes the following ASLC efforts possible:**

- Monthly Guided Bird Walks
- Kayak/Canoe Field Trips
- Special Guest Presentations
- Kids' Classroom Presentations
- Free Field Guides/Binoculars (loaned during field trips/walks and classroom presentations)
- Monthly meetings open to Public
- Semi-Annual Newsletter - (Summer and Winter issues)
- Website: [www.lincolncityaudubon.com](http://www.lincolncityaudubon.com)
- Staff attendance to quarterly state meetings to help co-ordinate legislative efforts in the protection of Oregon's wildlife and habitat
- Phone service for bird and animal hotline connection and information

**Give us your support today. Call ASLC at 541-992-0440**

**BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY BY ASLC MEMBERS**



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Winter and Spring Events**



**IAN 2012**

**Thursday, Jan 10, 5:00pm ~ (ASLC) Board Meeting in Aces at Chinook Winds Golf Resort.** Open to the public.

**Saturday, Jan 12th, 9-11am ~ Dress for the weather and join trip leader Mark Elliott for birding the OSU Hatfield Marine Science Center Nature Trail.** This time of year there will be an abundance of waterfowl and birds of prey. Birds in the bush are always a surprise as well. From Newport take the first exit south after crossing Yaquina Bay Bridge and drive on SE OSU Drive following signs for the Center. Park at the east side of the Visitor Center. No prior birding experience is required and binoculars and guidebooks will be provided. Call 541-992-0440 if more information is needed.

**Tuesdays & Thursdays, January 15-24th, 1-3pm ~ "Birding Basics"** is once again taught by ASLC Volunteers at Lincoln City's Oregon Coast Community College campus. Contact Janice Redford at 541-996-6222 or email [jredford@occc.cc.or.us](mailto:jredford@occc.cc.or.us) for information and/or registration.

**FEB**

**Saturday, Feb 9, 9-11am ~ Nestucca Wildlife Refuge bird walk is led by Mark Elliott.** The refuge supports 10% of the world population of dusky Canada geese. A multitude of habitat including pastures, grasslands, woodlands, tidal marsh and mudflats, as well as freshwater bogs and forest are found in this beautiful refuge. Binoculars and guidebooks will be provided. Travel north on Highway 101 from Lincoln City. Turn left at the refuge entrance on Christensen Road and meet in the lower parking.

**Thursday, Feb 14, 5:00pm ~ (ASLC) Board Meeting in Aces at Chinook Winds Golf Resort.** Open to the public.

**Friday, Feb 15 - Monday, Feb 18th ~ The 2013 GBBC (Great Backyard Bird Count)** will take place. Everyone is welcome—from beginning bird watchers to experts. It takes as little as 15 minutes on one day, or you can count for as long as you like each day of the event. It's free, fun, and easy—and it helps the birds. For more info, go to: [www.birdsource.org/gbbc/whycount.html](http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/whycount.html).

**MAR**

**Saturday, March 9, 9-11am ~ Boiler Bay Birding.** Call 541-921-0440 or visit our website ([www.lincolncityaudubon.org](http://www.lincolncityaudubon.org)) for more information.

**Thursday, Mar 14, 5:00pm ~ (ASLC) Board Meeting in Aces at Chinook Winds Golf Resort.** Open to the public.

**APR**

**Thursday, Apr. 11, 5:00pm ~ (ASLC) Board Meeting in Aces at Chinook Winds Golf Resort.** Open to the public.

**Saturday, April 13, 9-11am ~ Siletz Bay bird walk.** Call 541-921-0440 or visit our website ([www.lincolncityaudubon.org](http://www.lincolncityaudubon.org)) for more information.

**MAY**

**Thursday, May 9, 5:00pm ~ (ASLC) Board Meeting in Aces at Chinook Winds Golf Resort.** Open to the public.

**Saturday, May 11, 9am-noon ~ Birding at Cape Meares State Scenic Viewpoint.** Call 541-921-0440 or visit our website ([www.lincolncityaudubon.org](http://www.lincolncityaudubon.org)) for more information.

**JUN**

**Saturday, June 8, 9-11am ~ Pixie Land bird walk.** Call 541-921-0440 or visit our website ([www.lincolncityaudubon.org](http://www.lincolncityaudubon.org)) for more information.

**Thursday, June 13, 5:00pm ~ (ASLC) Board Meeting in Aces at Chinook Winds Golf Resort.** Open to the public.



**JUL**

**Thursday, July 11, 5:00pm ~ (ASLC) Board Meeting in Aces at Chinook Winds Golf Resort.** Open to the public.

**Saturday, July 13, 9-11am ~ Join Mark Elliott for a birding event at the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area.** We will meet in the interpretive center parking lot. We will see nesting colonies of the Common Murre, Bald Eagle, Black Oystercatcher, Cormorant, Brown Pelican, and Pigeon Guillemot. This is a busy time of year for the birds we will view. Dress for the weather. No prior birding experience is required and binoculars and guidebooks will be provided. From Highway 101 in Newport turn west on Lighthouse Drive. Follow road to parking lot by interpretive center.

