

Be sure to visit
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

Photo Gallery



Spotted Sandpiper by Jack Doyle



Red-tailed Hawk by Jody Picconi



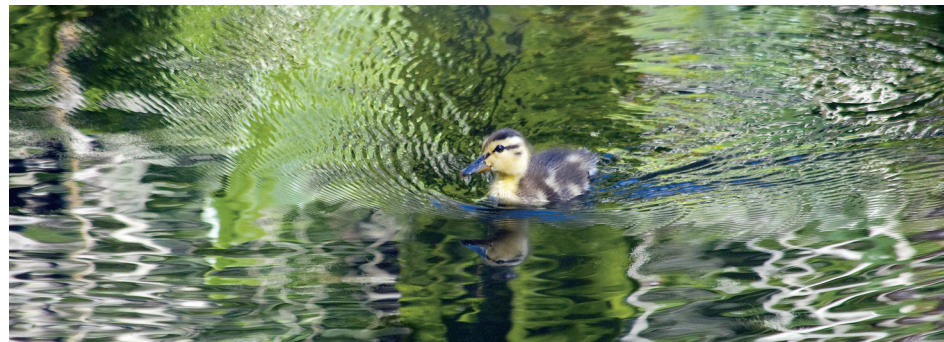
Orange-crowned Warbler by Rick Sorensen



Wood Duck by Bill Henderson

Duck Rescue

by Jody Picconi



I received a call one morning from a young lady named Kim. She told me she had 5 baby Mallard ducklings in her bath tub and that she rescued them from Siletz Bay. Here is her story:

She lives in a condo off SW 51st in Taft. She was eyeing the bay when she spotted an eagle flying in. She watched the eagle swoop down and snatch up a momma Mallard. The Mallard eggs had just hatched a day or two earlier. With the female gone and the young ducklings so small, they didn't have a chance to survive. Kim saw the baby ducks all alone. She watched as another eagle came in and snatched up a duckling. Then a feral cat nabbed one of the ducklings too. She couldn't watch this continue to the rest of the ducklings, so she and a friend decided to help the remaining babies. When the tide was low, they waded out to the little sand island (where the fir tree is growing) and caught the remaining 5 ducklings. How Kim got Caren's number is not clear to me, but she called Caren who gave her my phone number.

I called J.D. who said to call Lisa. I called Kim back and told her that I would pick up the babies one way or another and assured her that they would all be taken good care of. Kim said she still had the babies in her bath tub. She had filled the tub with lukewarm water and kept the ducklings there. They were loving life, swimming around and playing and not knowing that their mama was gone along with a few siblings. I called Lisa and told her of the ducklings plight. She said she would get back to me. About 20 minutes later I had a call from a gentleman named Harry who said Lisa called him to get the ducklings from me and he would take them to Lisa. Since Harry lived close to 51st, I gave him Kim's phone number to set up the transfer of the ducklings. I then called Kim and told her about Harry. Lisa told me that wild Mallards won't adopt ducklings and that the babies will end up at the Chintimini Wildlife Center in Corvallis. There they should all live a long and healthy life.



THE KING'S CORNER



What a great time of the year to live on the Oregon coast and observe birds! I sometimes take for granted that we live in a migration path that birds fly through twice a year. We can observe a great variety of birds in the spring when we see the birds that fly further north to nest and when others arrive to stay in this area to raise their young. What a treat to have the ones who stay for the summer season come to the bird feeders! Black-headed Grosbeaks seem to be our main bird-feeder customer this year. They arrived a few months ago and have spent the whole summer eating our sunflower seeds.

It is fun to look in your bird books and see what birds are common in this area but are unusual or unseen in other parts of the country. The Chestnut-backed Chickadee is one of these frequent bird-feeder visitors. They stay around all year and are a constant source of cheer with their sweet "pst pst."

This coming year we will be trying to build our local membership. By becoming a local member for \$20, you will be supporting our chapter's on-going effort to provide "Audubon Adventures" to the 4th/5th graders of Lincoln and Tillamook County elementary schools, and you will be helping to cover the cost of our chapter newsletters. This year, we would like to be able to provide more birding guidebooks to our local elementary school classrooms and purchase a few more binoculars for the students to use in the "Audubon Adventures" activities.

The Kingfisher

Volume 7, Issue 1 Central Oregon Coast - Garibaldi to Yachats Summer 2012

The Salmon River Estuary - A Birder's Paradise Restored

On June 9th, a group of 27 avian enthusiasts had the opportunity to visit two amazing sites in the Salmon River estuary. Led by LSAS members and U.S. Forest Service Wildlife Biologist, Michelle Dragoo, the group traveled to the former Pixieland Amusement Park and Tamara Quays trailer park project areas. These sites have been the focus of a collaborative effort to restore the Salmon River estuary to its former ecological health.

A Brief Bit of History . . .

Prior to development, the Pixieland and Tamara Quays sites were part of the healthy, productive Salmon River estuary and provided habitat for migrating birds and other species associated with tidal wetlands. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, much of that habitat was lost to roads, artificial dikes, tide gates, trailer pads, amusement park rides and other infrastructure. After a few short years, the Pixieland Amusement Park closed. Ultimately, Tamara Quays followed suit.

In 1974, Congress established the Cascade Head Scenic Research Area (CHSRA), which includes the Salmon River estuary. To facilitate protection of CHSRA, the U.S. Department of Agriculture developed the Cascade Head Scenic Research Management Plan in 1977. The Siuslaw National Forest (SNF) subsequently acquired both sites, under the authority of CHSRA. In 2006, SNF, in partnership with the Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council (SDCWC), secured funding to restore the sites to natural-functioning tidal wetlands. To date, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Oregon Department of State Lands and the National Forest Foundation have provided funding to remove dikes and other infrastructure, realign streams, fill artificial ditches, reestablish tidal flow and plant native species that will provide long-term shelter and sustenance for wildlife. The Tamara Quays site is open to the public, with Pixieland soon to follow.



(continuation of The King's Corner)

Our chapter expenses are low because the chapter has no paid staff, but our chapter revenues are also low because all our chapter education, field trip, and outreach activities are free to community participants, to schools, and to students. Everything we do is made possible through your membership donations and the wonderful work of our dedicated group of volunteers. Please help support the work of these volunteers by becoming a local chapter member. If you would like to know about volunteering with our chapter, please contact me at 541-992-0440.

- Jack Doyle, ASLC President



Today . . .

As the scars of development heal, wildlife is rebounding. Our June 9th birders were rewarded by a plethora of sightings, including Anna's Hummingbird, Band-tailed Pigeon, Barn Swallow, Belted Kingfisher, Brown-headed Cowbird, Bushtit, Cedar Waxwing, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Cooper's Hawk, Downy Woodpecker, European Starling, Great Blue Heron, Hermit Warbler, Osprey, Pacific Wren, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Purple Finch, Red-tailed Hawk, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Rufus Hummingbird, Song Sparrow, Swainson's Thrush, Tree Swallow, Turkey Vulture, Violet-green Swallow, Warbling Vireo, Western Wood-pewee, White-crowned Sparrow, Willow Flycatcher, Wilson's Warbler and the very colorful Wood Duck.

Work in the Salmon River estuary is not yet complete. Throughout the month of August, SNF and SDCWC will be restoring the Crowley Creek marsh area, which is located next to Knight County Park. For many years, the restoration partners will continue to monitor project effectiveness and remove invasive plant species as at all three sites, to ensure maximum ecological recovery.

To learn more about the Salmon River estuary restoration work, please visit www.salmondrift.org or www.fs.usda.gov or maybe participate in the following upcoming event: **July 21, 4:30-6:30pm** ~ Ecology of the Salmon River estuary and what to expect this summer at Crowley Creek. Sitka Center for Art and Ecology, 56605 Sitka Drive, Otis.



Devils Lake Swans

by Patty Sorensen



In the 1950's Devils Lake was home to many swans. They were definitely not a friendly group, however! If you got too close or they thought you were dangerous, you would be subjected to quite an attack. After their babies hatched, they would wander along the shoreline looking for handouts. We always kept the bread heels, etc., in a special bag waiting for their arrival which was quite an event. We would spot them down the lake a bit, run into the cabin and get our treats then sit on the dock quietly waiting for them to arrive. They are now Oregon's only bird on the 100 worst birds list according to the Oregon Invasive Species Council. Read more at http://www.oregon.gov/OISC/docs/pdf/pr_swan210.pdf?ga=t.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Summer and Fall Events



2nd Thursday of each month at 5:30pm ~ Audubon Society of Lincoln City (ASLC) Meeting in Aces Grill at Chinook Winds Golf Resort. Because location can change, call 541-992-0440 for latest update on location. Open to the public.

AUG

Saturday, August 11th, 8:30-Noon ~ Join Jack Hurt and Dick Demarest for birding at the Bayocean Spit/Tillamook Bay. The spit is surrounded by scenic Tillamook Bay and there will be sightings of migrating shorebirds using this area as a stop over. From Highway 101 in Tillamook, turn west on 3rd Street/Three Capes Scenic Loop and go 3 miles to Bayocean Spit. Turn right and follow the gravel road 1.5 miles to the parking lot. No prior birding experience is required and binoculars and guidebooks will be provided. Call 541-992-0440 if more information is needed.



OCT

Saturday, October 13th, 9:30am ~ join Dawn Grafe and ASLC field leader Mark Elliott for birding on Beaver Creek. Participants will need to bring their own kayaks or canoes, safety gear and watercraft permits. We will launch from Ona Beach State Park. The two-mile paddle meanders up the Beaver Creek valley. There will be a variety of raptors, terrestrial birds, and shore birds. From Highway 101 in Newport, drive south 8 miles to milepost 148.9. Turn east on North Beaver Creek Road and take immediate right into parking area. No prior birding experience is required and binoculars and guidebooks will be provided.

NOV

Saturday, November 10th, 9:00 am ~ join Mark Elliott and Jack Doyle in this birding adventure at the River House* in the Cascade Head Scenic Area. Bird expert Mark Elliott will lead the bird walk while Jack Doyle will discuss photographing the birds on and around the beautiful Salmon River.

* Directions to CHR River House from coastal Hwy 101: At the junction of Hwy 101 and Three Rocks Road North, travel west toward the ocean for 2.3 miles. At the "Y" in the road, turn right on to Savage Road and follow it to the end. It'll bring you down to the mouth of the Salmon River and to the Cascade Head Ranch River House.



SEP

Saturday, September 8th ~ join Mark Elliott and fellow birders for a road trip to Baskett Slough Wildlife Refuge. Meet at the Lincoln City Community Center at 7:45am, and the caravan will leave by 8:00am for the Refuge. This refuge has expansive wetlands, fields, oak savannas, and woodlands. Sightings of Geese, Harriers, and Red-tailed Hawks are in the air and in the fields. Also, there could be viewings of Great Egrets, Cinnamon Teal and Yellow-headed Blackbirds. From Lincoln City, follow Highway 101 North and take ramp on to Hwy 18. Then catch Highway 22 East on way to Salem. We will turn left on Smithfield Road and an immediate right on to Coville Road. We will gather on the south side of the Slough Pond for our starting point. No prior birding experience is required and binoculars and guidebooks will be provided. Call 541-992-0440 if more information is needed.

JAN 2013

Saturday, January 12th, 9-11am ~ Dress for the weather and join trip leader Mark Elliott for birding at 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.



FEB

Saturday, February 9th, 9-11am ~ Nestucca Wildlife Refuge bird walk will be led by Mark Elliott, Audubon Society of Lincoln City. The refuge supports 10% of the world population of dusky Canada geese. A multitude of habitats— including pastures, grasslands, woodlands, tidal marsh and mudflats, as well as freshwater bogs and forest—are found in this beautiful refuge. Dress for the weather. No prior birding experience is required and binoculars and guidebooks will be provided. Travel north on Highway 101 from Lincoln City. Turn left at the refuge entrance on Christensen Rd and meet in the lower parking. Call 541-992-0440 if more information is needed.

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
- 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

Visit www.lincolncityaudubon.org for more information and to see what else is in the ASLC news!