

The Kingfisher

Volume 11, Issue 1 Central Oregon Coast - Garibaldi to Yachats Summer 2016

THE KING'S CORNER



I have written the "King's Corner" for the past eight years so for this issue, I thought it would be fun to look back and see what has changed since the first King's Corner. In the Winter 2009 newsletter, I wrote "Ever wonder how this newsletter gets put together ...? Well, it's all because of one person, Ernie Rose. He does the layout and finds articles that may be of interest to us. Not only does he edit this newsletter, but he puts together our website as well. ASLC thanks you for your services, Ernie." This is still true, fifteen newsletters later!

In that 2009 issue we bid Dick Demarest a fond farewell and thanked him for his wonderful service as monthly field trip leader from the beginning of ASLC in 2006. In 2009 we also noted, "Mark your calendars for the upcoming field trips. Reluctant to say, past attendance has been rather poor. Your participation will ensure that future field trips will continue to be offered." People certainly responded, and Wow--has this changed! We now have 15 to 30 people on ASLC's field trips and in 2016 are offering 24 bird walks to Lincoln/Tillamook County sites. Joining an ASLC field trip with enthusiastic and experienced birders is one of the best ways for all of us to learn more about birds, meet others interested in birds and the environment, and just have fun. Experienced birder and board member Mark Elliot has now been

our field trip leader for a number of years. Mark had a knee replacement on May 5, but we look forward to his prompt return and are sure he will be good to go for another 10 years.

In 2009 I attended my second Oregon Audubon Council meeting in Eugene. This group includes all the Audubon chapters in Oregon and meets two times a year. Lynn Herring of the Portland Audubon Society headed up this group for years. The chapters work on issues of mutual concern and set conservation and education priorities by membership vote. I just returned from my 12th meeting which was hosted by the Cape Argo Audubon chapter in Bandon. Meg Ruby, Portland Audubon, now keeps us on track with

It's a Team Effort

by Jack Seagrove

The Audubon Society of Lincoln City (ASLC) teamed up with the Boy Scouts of Troop 47, Lincoln City, in an effort to provide adequate nesting opportunities for the local purple martin population. Working together with materials and plans provided by ASLC, the Scouts fabricated seven bird houses designed to attract purple martins. The Cultural Center of Lincoln City donated the space at the Center for the Scouts and the ASLC to build the bird houses.

To get the Scouts prepared, Laura Doyle and Caren Willoughby, ASLC's Educational Birding Program Instructors, gave the Scouts an informative and entertaining lesson about purple martins during one of the Scouts Weekly Troop Meetings.

Tom and Caren Willoughby, of the ASLC, got everything set up for the Scouts purchasing the materials with money provided by the ASLC. They then worked with the Scouts in constructing the houses. ASLC President, Jack Doyle, even stopped by to lend a hand to the Scouts as they built the bird houses.

The next challenge will be in placing the houses where they'll do the most good. Even in this the Scouts can help as they can accompany the Audubon Birders as they put out the houses and learn a little bit more about their local area and the ecology. One of the goals for the ASLC is to get the Scouts interested in birding and, possibly, pursuing a Birding Merit Badge.



photos by Jack Seagrove

advice from Lynn. ASLC has hosted the group twice and will host again in the fall 2016. The most recent meeting focused on education and ASLC Education Chair Caren Willoughby with Laura Doyle gave a terrific presentation on ASLC's education efforts.

In 2009, ASLC local chapter membership was not available, but now, this year we have 100 local chapter members and are welcoming a great new Membership Chair, Joe Youren. It's good to look back once in a while to see how much everyone has accomplished.

Cheers, Jack Doyle

Explore for Birds in Lincoln City Open Spaces with Audubon

ASLC volunteers will be leading a series of twelve bird walks through the diverse birding habitats of Lincoln City's Open Spaces from May through September. All trips are free and family-friendly, and binoculars and field guides will be lent to those who need them. Beginning birders and families are particularly welcome.

These Field Trips start at 9am and last about two hours. Nearly all the walks are "easy" and adjacent to convenient parking. Open Spaces bird walks are sponsored by the Lincoln City Open Space Program. As part of encouraging public enjoyment and awareness of Lincoln City Open Space sites, the program is supporting the printing of a graphic guide to birds that kids and families may see at these sites. For more detailed information and maps of the sites, see the Lincoln City Open Spaces website. Field trip sites and dates are listed in the LC Open Spaces website as well as in the ASLC Calendar webpage.



In Focus: Identifying Birds

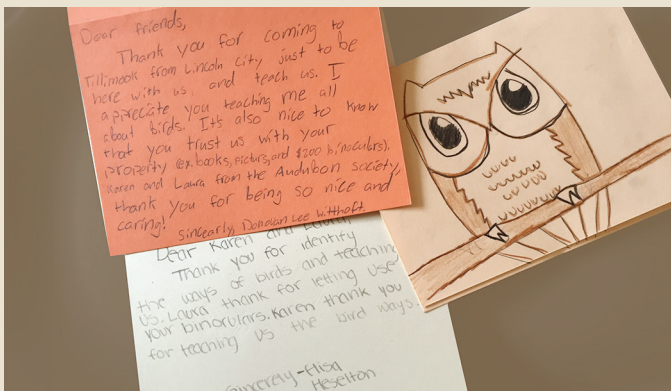
by Caren Willoughby

Picture Laura Doyle and I walking into a room full of fifth graders who are anxiously waiting to learn about birds. When the level of interest is this high it becomes a "piece of cake" to work with children. At East Elementary in Tillamook, Laura and I spent four days sharing bird topography, adaptations of beaks and feet along with bird behaviors.



Students put those skills to work by identifying birds from photos and showed they know how to use the Stokes Western Field Guide like a pro. It became a competition to see who could identify the most birds.

Perhaps a favorite activity was instructing students how to use Audubon's binoculars. For most students this was a first. Once everything was in focus they were able to identify birds by their field marks. To see the excitement on their faces made the trip from Lincoln City to Tillamook a joy.



New ASLC Board Member

Joseph Youren.

I am originally from Idaho but lucky enough to now live on the beautiful Left Coast and love retirement after 30 years as a teacher and public school administrator. In the seventh grade Mr. Hill introduced his Life Science classes to birds and birding. He had a large collection of Kodak slides and would project them regularly, explaining the natural history of birds, introducing field marks, and drilling us on identification. I still remember buying my first Peterson's Field Guide in a used bookstore that fall. I became a member of ASLC after taking the Birding Basics Class and appreciate the opportunities it gives me to enjoy birds and some really great people.



Outdoor School for All

In Fall 2015, Oregon Audubon Council of Oregon's local Audubon chapters prioritized "Outdoor School for All" near the top of our education agenda. Advocates have until June 20, 2016 to gather signatures to put this initiative on the November ballot. Want to see this measure on the November ballot? Check ASLC's website to see where/when ASLC volunteers are collecting signatures or sign an e-petition at <http://www.outdoorschoolforall.org/sign-the-petition/>.

Right now, only about half of Oregon's students get any Outdoor school experience because of tight local budgets. Oregon's long tradition of outdoor school is a smart, time-tested, hands-on science-based week of solid effective education that changes kids' lives making them better prepared to meet tomorrow's challenges. Oregonians who grew up with outdoor school or whose children had the benefit of an outdoor school experience know how much many of today's Oregon students are missing. For more information or to volunteer as a signature gatherer, go to <http://www.outdoorschoolforall.org/#home>.

2016 ASLC Annual Meeting Notice

When: 5 PM, June 17, 2016

Where: CHR River House, Salmon River/Savage Road, Otis, OR

(*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.)

2016 Annual Meeting: Please join us for a potluck dinner, short business meeting, and an interesting program from ASLC's Dawn Villascusa. Bring a dish to share. ASLC provides drinks and plates/utensils. Dawn's intro to South African birds is based on her recent trip to Cape Town and includes her slides of Cape Town birds that are similar and not-so-similar to our Oregon birds.

2016 Annual meeting agenda includes election of board members and election of board officers. ASLC's quorum is 15 members in person, by mail, or by proxy! Members can vote in person by attending the meeting; by sending in the ballot below to ASLC, PO Box 38, Lincoln City OR 97367; by emailing the ballot below to ASLC Secretary laura_doyle@charter.net or by proxy. For proxy: our by-laws say you must communicate in writing that you are voting by proxy, although you may send your written proxy by email to ASLC Acting Secretary laura_doyle@charter.net. Mailed or emailed ballots or proxies must be received by noon, June 17.

PROXY Delegation: I give my proxy to:

____ Secretary, ASLC

OR

_____ name of person holding my proxy

_____ signature _____ printed name

ASLC 2016 Annual Meeting Ballot

Board of Directors Election: The ASLC board recommends the following slate of ASLC members be re-elected as board members:

___ Laura Doyle (current board secretary)	___ Ernie Rose (current board newsletter/website chair)
___ Mark Elliott (current board fieldtrip chair)	___ Dawn Villascusa (current board conservation chair)
___ Mark Nicholson.(current board member)	___ Joseph Youren (current board membership chair)
_____ write-in _____ write-in	
_____ write-in _____ write-in	

Board of Directors Officers Election: The ASLC board recommends the following slate of board officers:

___ President, Jack Doyle (current)	_____ President, write-in
___ Vice President, Jack Seagrove (current)	_____ Vice President, write-in
___ Secretary, Laura Doyle (current)	_____ Secretary, write-in
___ Treasurer, Dave Smith (current)	_____ Treasurer, write-in

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

▼ Summer and Fall Events



2nd Tuesday of each month at 5:00pm ~ Audubon Society of Lincoln City (ASLC) Meeting in Aces Grill at Chinook Winds Golf Resort. Because time and location can change, call 541-992-9720 for latest updates. These meetings are open to the public.

JUN

Friday, June 10, 9-11am ~ Open Spaces Bird Walk at Devils Lake State Park/ Boardwalk/D River.

Saturday, June 11, 9-11am ~ Salmon River Estuary: Tamara Quay and Pixieland. We will walk the trails of this wonderful restoration project looking for Rufus Hummingbird, American Goldfinch, Bushtit, Cedar Waxwing, Warbling Vireo, and raptors. Meet along Frazier Road on the west side of Hwy 101 just north of the Hwy 18 overpass.

Friday, June 17, 5pm ~ ASLC Annual Meeting at CHR River House at the end of Savage Road along the Salmon River. Please join us for a potluck dinner, short business meeting, and an interesting program from ASLC's Dawn Villascusa. The agenda includes election of board members and election of board officers. *(See other side of this insert for more detailed information.)*

Saturday, June 18, 9-11am ~ Open Spaces Bird Walk: Spring Lake Trail.

Saturday, June 25, 9-11am ~ Open Spaces Bird Walk at the Knoll.

JUL

Friday, July 8, 9-11am ~ Open Spaces Bird Walk at Devils Lake State Park/ Boardwalk/D River.

Saturday, July 9, 9-11am ~ Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area Yaquina Head is known for its easy viewing of nesting seabirds and this is the peak of the seabird nesting season. You are likely to see Common Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Pelagic and Brandt's Cormorant, Black Oystercatcher, Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon. Yaquina Head Lighthouse is north of Newport off Hwy 101. Turn west at the traffic signal onto Lighthouse Drive. We will meet at the Interpretive Center. BLM requires a recreational pass or charges a vehicle fee of \$7.00. Call 541-992-9720 or visit our website for more information.

Saturday, July 23, 9-11am ~ Open Space Bird Walk at Friends of Wildwood Trail.

AUG

Friday, August 5, 9-11am ~ Open Space Bird Walk at Cutler City/Josephine Young

Saturday, August 13 ~ Birding the Bayocean Spit/Tillamook Bay. The Spit is surrounded by the Pacific Ocean and Tillamook Bay where we look for sea ducks and bay ducks. We keep alert for a sighting of a possible rare sandpiper among the flocks of migrating shorebirds. Great Egret and Great Blue Heron may be seen. Will look for warblers and Kinglets in the wooded areas. From Hwy 101 in Tillamook, turn west on 3rd Street. After 2 miles turn Right onto Bayocean Drive/ Three Capes Scenic Loop. After five miles turn Right onto a gravel road and drive 1.5 miles to parking lot. Immediately following the field trip we encourage you to join a tour of the collection of mounted birds from around the world at the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum located at 2106 Second Street in Tillamook.

Friday, August 5, 9-11am ~ Open Space Bird Walk at Agnes Creek.

SEP

Saturday, September 10, 9-11am ~ Kayaking/canoeing and Birding the Little Nestucca River. This is part of the Nestucca NWR. We will see waterfowl, raptors and riparian birds. You will need to provide your own gear: kayak/canoe, personal flotation device (PFD)/ life vest (mandatory), and whistle (also mandatory). All participants must wear a PFD at all times when you are on the water. You should also be able to swim as you ARE responsible for your own safety. Be sure you have an invasive species permit for your vessel if it is 10 feet or longer (mandatory). Boat ramp is located on the south side of the Little Nestucca River on Meda Loop, a quarter mile off Hwy 101.

Saturday, September 17, 9-11am ~ Open Space Bird Walk at Taft Kiosk/Siletz Bay.

Saturday, September 24, 9-11am ~ Open Space Bird Walk at The Villages of Cascade Head.

OCT

Saturday, October 8, 9-11am ~ Boiler Bay State Scenic Viewpoint to Devil's Punchbowl State Natural Area: Excellent off-shore seabird watching. Possible Marbled and Ancient Murrelet, Rhinoceros Auklet, Sooty Shearwater and Western Grebe. In Depoe Bay we may find Black Turnstone and Surf-bird. Devil's Punchbowl may reveal Harlequin Duck, Surf Scoter and Peregrine Falcon. We will meet in the parking lot at Boiler Bay.

NOV

Saturday, November 12, 9-11 am ~ Cascade Head Scenic Area at the River House. We will meet at the River House where Jack Doyle (and others) will discuss photographing the birds on and around the beautiful Salmon River (bring your camera!). We will look for wintering birds in woodlands, marsh and along the river. North of Lincoln City, 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 will bring you down to the mouth of the Salmon River and the Cascade Ranch River House.

DEC

Christmas Bird Count - details to be announced at a later date. See the website for more information or call 541-992-9720.

IAN 2017

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 541-992-9720 if more information is needed.

Join ASLC today!

Membership is your key to participation in education and bird appreciation activities. Join us and expand your enjoyment of birds, wildlife, and our beautiful Oregon coast environment.

Get Active. Become Engaged.

As a paid member your donation helps continue our environmental education and citizen science programs. It also enables us to participate in local and regional habitat restoration and wildlife advocacy programs. Your membership can really make a difference.

As a volunteer you help us further the goals of our Society. We provide guided field trips, participate in research, and educate children and adults to appreciate birds and our magnificent local environment.

Become a VIP Sponsor and increase your impact on wildlife and habitat preservation. Your donations to our 501(c)(3) non-profit will expand your influence and impact in our educational and scientific efforts. VIP Sponsors make everything we do possible.

Please join us as we explore the many splendors of the natural world that surround us.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP makes possible:

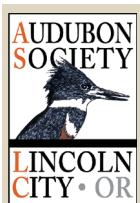
- Monthly interpretive bird walks
- Kayak/canoe field trips
- Free use of binoculars and field guide during field trips
- Special guest and media presentations
- "Birding Basics for Beginners" community college workshops
- "Wild About Birds" elementary school programs
- Monthly meetings
- Newsletters
- Representation at state meetings
- Co-ordination of legislative efforts to protect wildlife and habitat
- Hotline phone service for bird and animal information



Support Audubon Society of Lincoln City today.

Call: 541 992 9720

Visit us on the web: www.lincolncityaudubon.org



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541-992-9720



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

What are Those BIG Birds in My Seed Feeder?

by Patty Sorensen

Are they the melodious Mourning Doves, the invasive Eurasian Collared Doves or the native Band-tailed Pigeons?

I LOVE one of these species and am frustrated by the other two who seem to eat TONS of my feeder food! They flock in like a starving group of teenagers and act about the same as many.....pushing, shoving and sticking together as they commit their "crime." I'm training my dog to run out to scare them off. The Eurasian Collared Doves are not fooled but the Band-Tailed Pigeons fly off quickly. Teehee.

Let's take a closer look at identifying these voracious birds.

MOURNING DOVES (my favorites)	EURASIAN COLLARED DOVES	BAND-TAILED PIGEONS
12" average	11" - 13" long average	14" - 15" average length
4.3 oz average	5.4 oz average	12.5 oz average
Brown, buff, sheen or iridescence with pink-brown underparts	Gray with pale gray underparts. Nape has a black "half moon" trimmed in white	Gray with iridescent dark green below white neck ring. Purple-gray under with white belly
Pointed, solid	Fan, solid tail color	Fan, banded tail pattern
Red legs	Pink legs	Yellow legs
Low, mournful "coo-ah, coo, coo, coo"	Call "hwaah" or "krreair"	Relatively quiet
Year-round resident	May be displacing native doves like the Mourning Dove	Native to our area
Leading game bird with more than 20 million shot annually in the U.S.	Introduced in the Bahamas in the 1970s, quickly migrated to Florida	They can drink without lifting their heads

Just when you think you can identify these three, I of course, have to mention there is a fourth one to add to our confusion. If you'd like to learn more about the Rock Dove, an invasive species introduced from Europe, check out the ODFW website at <http://www.dfw.state.or.us> They also have vocalizations of all four of these birds. There are more details also in iBird Pro for either iPhones or androids. Hope this helps. I'm headed out to fill the feeders AGAIN and treat my dog for chasing off the gluttons.



Photo of Eurasian Collared-Dove by Ernie Rose



Photo of Band-tailed Pigeons by R. Sorensen