

# The Chat

Number 376  
February 2011

A voice for education and conservation in the natural world

Rogue Valley Audubon Society

[www.roguevalleyaudubon.org](http://www.roguevalleyaudubon.org)

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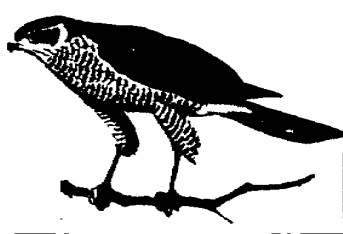


**This month's program-**  
**Tuesday, February 22, 7:00 pm**  
(Held at Westminster Presbyterian Church  
2000 Oakwood Drive in Medford)

## HAWKS!

### PRESENTED BY DICK ASHFORD

Hawks - easily seen, they push our primal poetic buttons and connect with us on a visceral level. Simply stated, hawks have charisma. In this program, Dick Ashford will help us examine the natural history of these fascinating creatures, including behavior, habitat and adaptations for survival. Although this will NOT be an ID class, we'll learn basic characteristics of some of our common hawks. We'll be well prepared (and motivated) to venture afield in search of these beautiful creatures. At the end of our time together, you'll be a certified raptor enthusiast! Dick is a board member and past-Chairman of the American Birding Association, Board President of the Klamath Bird Observatory, a board member of the Crater Lake Natural History Association and a former Mayor of Sonoma, CA. He has spent hundreds of hours in the field watching hawks and an equal amount of time researching their natural history. He leads hawk-watching outings in both California and Oregon and is a frequent speaker at bird clubs and birding festivals.



**Plan ahead: -next months program  
will be held March 22 at 7:00 pm**

Join us for a presentation by Bob Claypole on the Klamath River Basin.

### BIRDATHON 2011—SET FOR APRIL 30

Birdathon is one of two major fundraisers for RVAS. Last year only two teams (plus Susan Rust as a solo act) went into the field to see as many species as they could in one day. This year we are hoping for more, more teams, more people in the field, more species seen and more funds raised for RVAS.

Complete details on how you can take part this year will be included in the March issue of the Chat. In the mean time, polish your binoculars, make a list of those you will be asking for supporting pledges and ,sharpen your birding skills. Birdathon is coming.

For questions or to register as a participant, contact Alex at 541-482-1964.



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## President's Column

### Alex Maksymowicz

You have had a few month's respite from a recurring theme in this column, namely, the need for volunteers to keep our organization running smoothly. Volunteers find speakers for chapter meeting programs and a place to hold them, they put together a schedule of field trips and find experienced birders to lead them, publish the Chat, keep our website and membership database updated and updated, and manage the organizations' finances. They organize and coordinate the growing number of education and citizen science programs and keep track of bird conservation issues, locally, statewide, and nationally and work with other conservation organizations to achieve common goals. They elect candidates to the Board of Directors, which sets chapter policy and coordinates the diverse activities of the organization.

RVAS has no paid staff. We are able to accomplish so many tasks only because so many of our members volunteer to take them on. Many other members have taken on leadership roles in the past and are taking a well-earned rest. Those of you who are new to our chapter, not to worry—you will have plenty of opportunities to volunteer in the future. And when it comes to the Board of Directors, the future is now. We need to fill four positions on our board to replace those directors whose terms are expiring at the end of June or who have resigned for personal reasons. In accordance with our by-laws, the Board has formed a nominating committee, headed by Mary Sinclair, to find candidates to fill these vacancies. Please respond affirmatively if they ask you to stand for election at our April membership meeting.

### Chapter Meetings

The monthly chapter meetings in February, March and April will continue to be held at the Westminster Presbyterian Church located at 2000 Oakwood Drive in Medford. Thank you.

**Field Notes: The Changing Seasons**  
**Compiled by Stewart Janes**

As birders we live for the oddball, the bird that's out of place in time or space. We get our share in the valley. It might be a Surf Scoter at Lost Creek Reservoir or a Bullock's Oriole wintering over. One oddball, yes. Even a flock of oddballs is understandable but still only one flock.

So what is it with **Lazuli Buntings** this year. They just never cleared out. A pale female spent much of the fall and early winter north of White City on Dutton Road. Then there was the somewhat darker female near Seven Oaks Farm on the Medford Bird Count. If that wasn't enough, a male was seen on the Ashland Bird Count. What's wrong with Mexico?

There was an **Orange-crowned Warbler** in Ashland on 1/11 (PT), but if any warbler is likely to stick around, it is the Orange-crowned Warbler. A few winter over in Oregon every year. They are also the first of the warblers to arrive in early spring.

Then there are **Townsend's Warblers**. They never completely leave the state. A fair number winter along the coast. I've seen loose flocks of more than 20 birds several times over the years. A study of these birds suggested they are from the population that breeds in the Queen Charlotte Islands. The mainland birds mostly head to Mexico and Central America. Occasionally one or two are seen inland. One was reported from the Talent Greenway on 1/9 (JO) and another in south Medford on 12/23.

We missed a **Ferruginous Hawk** on the Medford Bird Count this year, and I was thinking we were going to break our multi-year string of having at least one bird spend the winter in the valley. It was just a little tardy this year, that's all. Reports have come from the Headquarters at Denman, Antioch Road, and Agate Lake between 1/1 and 1/5 (DA,NB,RK). **Prairie Falcons**, another rather uncommon wintering bird, were reported from Hoover Ponds, Meridian Road, and Highway 62 also between 1/1 and 1/5 (NB,DA,LM,MM).

**A Rough-legged Hawk** was seen along Dead Indian Memorial Road on 12/20 (DA). **Red-tailed Hawks** and **Red-shouldered Hawks** are already chasing out the wintering birds from their territories and choosing nests.

**Great Horned Owls** are hanging out by their nests and will begin incubation shortly. It's a little early for the other owls to think about breeding, but a **Barred Owl** was seen in East Medford on 12/24 (AK), and a **Northern Pygmy Owl** was on Roxy Ann Peak on 1/12 (DF).

Speaking of tardy or missing birds, **Lewis's Woodpeckers** were absent on the Medford Bird Count. So it is noteworthy that one was reported from Little Butte Creek on 1/5 (AM). Also, what was looking like a promising start for wintering **Varied Thrushes** in the valley withered as fall came to an end. There are still a few on the higher ridges (FL) but few on the valley floor. One was near Jacksonville on 12/27 (EL). **Cedar Waxwings**, too, have been scarce this winter. A flock of 20 was seen in East Medford on 1/7 (MS).

It took until January for the waterfowl to sort themselves out. Flocks of **American Wigeon** finally settled in with the usual smattering of **Eurasian Wigeon**. Two Eurasian Wigeons are at the VA Dom (NB) and a remarkable four are at the Cedar Links Golf Course (OS). A couple of **Redheads** have been drifting about the valley having been reported at various times from Ashland and Billings Ponds in Ashland and the ponds near the County Fairgrounds (HF,JB,NB). Thirteen **Tundra Swans** are again wintering in the Eagle Point area (NB) and a flock of **Greater White-fronted Geese** and a lone **Snow Goose** have also been drifting about having been seen from West Medford to north of Eagle Point (NB,HS). A flock of **Greater White-fronted Geese** was seen passing over the Siskiyou on 1/3 (FL).

Only a few other waterbird reports were turned in including a **Snowy Egret** at Lone Pine Park on 1/2 (CP), two **Eared Grebes** on the Hoover Ponds

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(LM, MM), and a Black-crowned Night Heron at the usual roost along Grammercy Road (MM,LM). Eight **Least Sandpipers** and a **Dunlin** were at Agate Lake on 1/8 (NB).

Other sightings of note include the two **Mountain Chickadees** at the feeder of Judd and Gaylene Hurley in south Medford, **Northern Shrikes** at Industry Way and Lincoln School (JO,JB), a **Mockingbird** in Ashland on 1/13 (BM), a **Rock Wren** at Emigrant Lake on 1/8 (NB), a **White-throated Sparrow** along the Ashland Greenway on 12/31 (PT), and a **Black-billed Magpie** on Dead Indian Memorial Road on 1/20 (JB).

Thanks to this month's contributors including Dick Ashford, Norm Barrett, John Bullock, Debbie Frierson, Harry Fuller, Bob Hunter, Judd Hurley, Gaylene Hurley, Ron Ketchum, Any Kleinhesselink, Edith Lindner, Frank Lospalutto, Alex Maksymiwicz, Barbara Massey, Lisa Moore, Marjorie Moore, Jeff O'Connell, Carol Palmer, Bob Quaccia, Gwyneth Ragsone, Howard Sands, Mo Swift, Otis Swisher,

and Pepper Trail. Deadline for contributions to the Field Notes in the next edition of The Chat is February 20.

The Klamath Bird Observatory (KBO) offers a number of field trips in the area on a regular basis. Contact their website, KBO at [Klamathbird.org](http://Klamathbird.org) for details.

Ashland Parks & Recreation Dept. offers a variety of programs for kids, adults and families, including Project Feeder Watch. Call 541-488-5340.

### THE RVAS QUIZ

Ask yourself these questions:

- 1) Do you enjoy RVAS programs and bird walks?
- 2) Have you taken a trip that includes birdwatching?
- 3) Have you participated in the Christmas Bird Count, Feederwatch or Bird-athon?
- 4) Do you find information in the Chat interesting and informative?
- 5) Do you use the Birder's Message Board?
- 6) Have you participated in a RVAS classroom project?
- 7) Do you visit our website or other birding websites?
- 8) Have you ever dreamed of having your own website?
- 9) Do you use MS Word?

If your answer to any of these questions is 'Yes' than you could be the perfect person to join the RVAS Board or get involved in some other way. Well, now is the time to speak up. Join the more than 25 individuals who give their time and talents to RVAS on a regular basis. There are lots of opportunities and your help is needed. Contact Mary Sinclair, Nominating Committee Chair, at 541-772-2372 to send her a message at [csinclair@alum.rpi.edu](mailto:csinclair@alum.rpi.edu) to learn how you can get involved.

## Bob Hunter: Advocate, Birder, and Great Gray by Kate Spifle

If not personally acquainted with Bob Hunter, you may remember him from his work with Waterwatch, or page 1 of the November 2010 Chat, or his RVAS program talk the 23<sup>rd</sup> of that month on "Freeing the Rogue," or his Birdathon team, the Great Grays, upsetting the Falcons in 2010. In addition to being one of the founders (1985) and continuing as staff attorney for Waterwatch, a nonprofit organization dedicated to "keeping water in streams," this avid birder stepped up to manage the 2010 RVAS Christmas Bird Count.

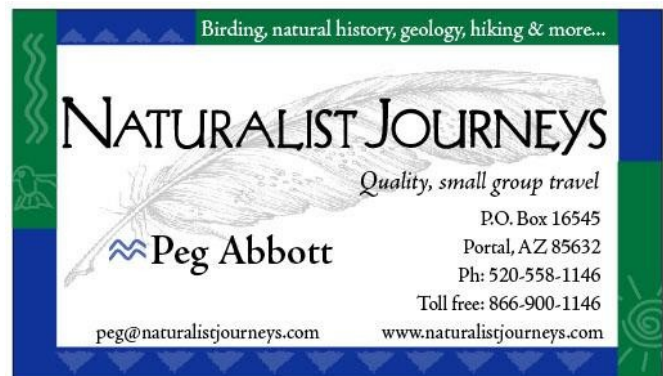
As Bob tells it, Waterwatch developed from the realization that important Rogue River salmon and steelhead spawning tributaries were suffering from unnaturally low flows and that there needed to be way to protect streamflows in Oregon's rivers. WaterWatch formed to "give a voice to the public interest" when water allocation decisions are made. The organization tracks water right applications at the Oregon Water Resources Department and advocates for protecting flows in Oregon's rivers through the courts, legislative and administrative processes. Bob was one of the drafters of Oregon's Instream Water Rights Act, which WaterWatch helped pass in 1987. He was also WaterWatch's lead staff person in the negotiations and litigation for removal of the Savage Rapids Dam, and played a key role in removal of the Gold Ray Dam through his efforts in obtaining federal Stimulus funds for dam removal. Bob for 21 years in work that finally enabled the removal of Savage Rapids Dam. He was awarded the Leopold Award in 2010 by the Federation of Fly Fisherman for his achievements in river conservation.

Waterwatch currently advocates for phasing out commercial farming on Tule Lake and Klamath National Wildlife Refuges because the practice is not consistent or compatible with refuge purposes and

because it is the best way to obtain water security for the refuges. Bob explains that the old lakebeds on the refuges could store water if they were not drained for agricultural use, and the 1905 Klamath Irrigation Project water rights to irrigate refuge land for commercial farming could be transferred to use for refuge purposes.

To help balance water use in the Klamath Basin WaterWatch has been advocating for a federal program to buy water rights from willing sellers to reduce irrigation demand on the waters of the Klamath River, including key tributaries such as the Williamson, Sprague, Wood, Shasta and Scott Rivers. Currently, 500,000 acres in total are irrigated from the over-allocated Klamath Basin waters. Federal legislation would be needed to create and fund such a program.

Two agreements were released in January 2010, the Klamath River Basin Restoration Agreement (KBRA), regarding water allocation, and the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement (KHSA), which would start a process to investigate removal of one or more of the dams along the Klamath River. Waterwatch has concerns about the KBRA because it favors allocation of water to Klamath Project irrigators at the expense of fish and wildlife, and attempts to lock in



## The Conservation Column

### Apocalypse... Now?

By Pepper Trail

The mysterious deaths of thousands of blackbirds that dropped from the sky in Arkansas on New Years Day riveted the nation's attention for ... well, a few days anyway. Examiners at the federal Wildlife Health Laboratory in Madison, Wisconsin concluded that the deaths resulted from "blunt force trauma" -- apparently panicked birds left their roost due to loud fireworks, and collided with buildings, trees, and wires. This incident, though dramatic, represented a tiny fraction of birds killed each year due to human causes.

"There are many human-related causes of bird mortality including buildings, outdoor cats, pesticides, communication towers, automobiles, wind farms, and lead poisoning from spent ammunition and lost fishing tackle. But because most of the deaths from those sources often occur in ones or twos, they often go unnoticed or unreported," said ABC Vice President Mike Parr, Vice President of the American Bird Conservancy (ABC).

Estimates from various studies show that up to one billion birds may be killed each year in collisions with buildings; another half a billion may die due to predation by outdoor cats; up to 50 million may die in collisions with communication towers; perhaps 15 million die annually due to pesticide poisoning and there is growing concern about bird mortality caused by the burgeoning wind industry.

"When you look at the totality of human-caused threats to birds, it has got to give cause for serious concern about our cumulative effects on their populations," Parr said.

Several threats have been dramatically reduced, but much still needs to be done. For example, thanks to advocacy efforts by ABC and other members of the National Pesticide Reform Coalition, the cancellation or restriction of some of the most toxic pesticides to birds, such as

carbofuran, fenthion and ethyl parathion, has reduced bird mortality by as much as 75%, yet millions still die as a result of pesticide poisoning each year.

Collisions with buildings could be drastically reduced if technology continues to advance in the development of bird-friendly or bird-safe glass for buildings. Several products have already been developed to reduce the incidence of bird impacts, but architects and city planners still need a greater understanding of the problem and the importance of making buildings bird safe.

"Bird-safe building glass is no longer a pie-in-the-sky dream. Its reality is on the horizon - we are close. The manufacturers are working with the scientists; they're working with us. And local communities are getting into the act as well, with more and more cities - such as San Francisco - looking at policies that implement bird-friendly construction," Parr added.

Last spring, an agreement was reached between ABC and its partners and the telecommunications industry, that would dramatically reduce the number of birds killed at communication towers. If that agreement is accepted by the Federal Communications Commission, new tall towers that pose the highest threat to birds would be subject to a greater level of environmental review - including independent assessment. A preferred



lighting styles would also be implemented. Ground-breaking as this agreement is, it does not address the thousands of towers already permitted and built across the American landscape that continue to kill birds.

Efforts continue to reduce the number of birds killed by wind turbines. A key action that will likely be decided in the next few months will involve a decision by the Department of the Interior to implement wind turbine siting and operational guidelines. These guidelines should be made mandatory .

"Voluntary guidelines don't work. We wouldn't expect people to pay voluntary taxes. We can't expect the wind industry to follow voluntary environmental guidelines either," ABC's Parr said.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) currently estimates that more than 400,000 birds are already being killed each year after being struck by the fast-moving blades of wind turbines. This figure is expected to rise significantly, and will likely eventually pass the million mark as wind power becomes increasingly ubiquitous under a Department of Energy plan to supply 20% of America 's power through wind by 2030.

Golden Eagles have already been one of the major victims of the largest wind farm in the United States at Altamont Pass in California. The Altamont wind farm was sited in an area that eagles and other raptors use to hunt ground squirrels and other small

mammals. Using the now-outdated towers as perches, thousands of raptors have been killed as they launch out through the spinning turbines towards their prey. While new tower designs have been developed, they don't completely eliminate the risk. Much of the additional wind build-out planned for the western U.S. is expected to occur in areas used by Golden Eagles.

A further threat to birds is expected to come from the major transmission line build-out required to service new wind farms. Large birds such as the endangered Whooping Crane can fail to see the wires in time and die after colliding with them. According to a recent FWS report, "The Great Plains states traversed by the Whooping Cranes during their fall and spring migrations are among the windiest states in the nation. The best places for wind energy development in these states overlap to a large extent the Whooping Crane migration corridor, and many of these areas provide attractive stopover sites. Thus, the potential for impacts to Whooping Cranes from future wind energy development is high."

The threat to yet more birds comes not from collisions, but from loss of their habitat due to wind farm construction. The Greater Sage-Grouse is already reduced to a tiny fraction of its former range and population size due to degradation of sagebrush habitat in the West. The proliferation of giant turbines looming over the habitat can

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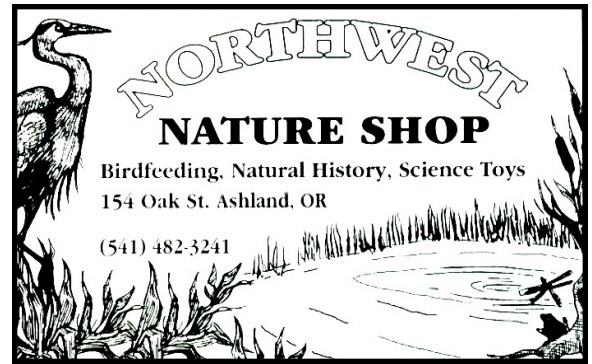


## Bird Walks

**First Wednesday Each Month: Little Butte Creek Walk.** Meet at 8:30 a.m. on TouVelle Road in the northeast section of the Denman Wildlife Area near White City. Leader: Murray Orr 857-9050\*\*\*

### Sign up to receive easy notification of Chapter activities

There is an easy way to be reminded of upcoming field trips and chapter meetings and the most recent edition of *The Chat*. Send an e-mail [RogueValleyAudubon@gmail.com](mailto:RogueValleyAudubon@gmail.com) and ask to be added to the e-mail notification list. And be assured, we will never share your e-mail address with any other organizations.



## Upcoming field trips of special interest

### February 26: Klamath Basin—led by Jim Harleman and Gwyneth Ragosine

Join Jim and Gwyneth for an all day field trip to the Klamath Basin for waterfowl and wintering raptors. This will be mostly car birding with stops for scoping. Bring lunch and snacks. To carpool meet at the Ashland Shop n' Kart (park on the dirt lot adjacent to their parking lot) at 8:00 am and plan to return by 5:00 pm. The trip is limited to 20 persons. Sign up by contacting Gwyneth at 541-552-1945. If you sign up after Feb. 11, call Jim at 541-664-7124.

### March 19: Trip to Whetstone Savannah

We will meet at 8:30 am for a field trip to Whetstone Savannah and then make time for a stop at Medford Airport to see if we can find wintering Short-eared owls. We hope to find wintering raptors, beat the bushes for some unusual sparrows and enjoy the mixture of grasslands and oak woodland habitats at Whetstone. Stay tuned for meeting place details in next issue.

### May 13 & 14: Field Trip to the Central Coast—Led by Ron Ketchum

We will base out of Lincoln City and bird in both directions from there. Plan to spend both the 13th and 14th in local motels at a minimum. Hotel options and other details will be included in the March issue of the Chat.

### June 9-12: Birding Malheur National Wildlife Refuge with Harry Fuller and Ron Ketchum

We will take a long weekend and see the breeding birds of Malheur, first set aside for conservation by President Teddy Roosevelt more than a century ago. We'll leave the Rogue Valley on the morning of Thursday, June 9 and return home on June 12. Look for complete details in the next issue.

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*Conservation Column continued from pg. 7*

cause birds to abandon remaining traditional breeding grounds. The total habitat footprint from wind farms is predicted to exceed 20,000 square miles by 2030, much of it in states such as Wyoming, one of the last remaining sage-grouse strongholds.

While Whooping Cranes are protected under the Endangered Species Act and Golden Eagles under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, most migratory birds are only protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which has seldom been enforced to prevent such mortality as is predicted as a result of wind development. The Greater Sage-Grouse, meanwhile, currently receives no federal legal protection, though several states have

stepped up to protect remaining core breeding areas. In the face of increasing wind development, realizing the potential for state agencies to do yet more will be important for this species.

"Without strong standards designed to protect birds through smart siting, technology, and mitigation programs, wind power will soon affect millions of birds. Given the subsidies paid to the wind industry by the government, many of the negative impacts to birds will be unwittingly funded by the American taxpayer," said Fuller. "We understand the problem and we know the solutions. American Bird Conservancy supports wind energy, and some operators are already working to protect birds, but we need to make all wind power bird smart now before major build out occurs."

-- information for this column was provided by the American Bird Conservancy ([www.abcbirds.org](http://www.abcbirds.org))

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## ROGUE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

(Rogue Valley Audubon Society will not share your information with any other organization.)

Circle if this is for **NEW MEMBERSHIP** **RENEWING MEMBERSHIP** **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Would you like to receive a printed copy of The Chat, our newsletter, mailed to you (it is also available on line)? **YES** **NO**

Dues alone are not enough to support our many activities, environmental and education efforts. Please consider a contribution in addition to your **\$20** membership. Your additional contribution may be tax deductible as RVAS is a 501 (C) 3 organization.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please check here if you wish your contribution to be anonymous.

## Christmas Bird Count Snapshot: Local Birders Revive Ashland CBC

On Dec. 29th, 2010, about forty birders hit the snow-covered sidewalks, hillsides, trails and lake-shores of Ashland in a newly reinstated Christmas Bird Count. The last official Ashland count was in 1941.

Ashland's count circle rises above 4000 feet in elevation in both the Siskiyou and Cascade mountains. The count day was sub-freezing with high winds in open areas and frequent snow flurries. Covering urban, agricultural and forest habitat, the group totaled 106 species. All agreed that the best bird was a male Lazuli Bunting, found along Ashland Creek in town. Lazuli Bunting is a long-distance migrant that is rarely seen here in the winter.



Counters also spotted Eurasian Wigeon, Great Egret, Greater White-fronted Goose, Mountain Quail, Merlin, Peregrine, Sora, 18 Wilson's Snipe, Townsend's Solitaire, Townsend's Warbler, White-throated Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Cassin's Finch, and Evening Grosbeak. The most abundant native species seen were American Robins (over 4000), Dark-eyed Juncos (1843), Canada Geese (nearly 900), and Lesser Goldfinches (more than 500).

Several changes in Ashland's bird populations since the 1941 count are notable. Fewer grasslands mean that Burrowing Owl and Horned Lark, both present in 1941, were not found. Corvids, which were scarce or missing seven decades ago, are now in abundance. The count yielded 91 Common Ravens, 73 American Crows, 40 Steller's Jays, and 218 Western Scrub-Jays. The area also now has several species missing 70 years ago: White-tailed Kite, Wrentit, Anna's Hummingbird, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Black Phoebe. Some suspect that these species have expanded their range north due to warming tem-



## Bob Hunter: Advocate, Birder, and Great Gray

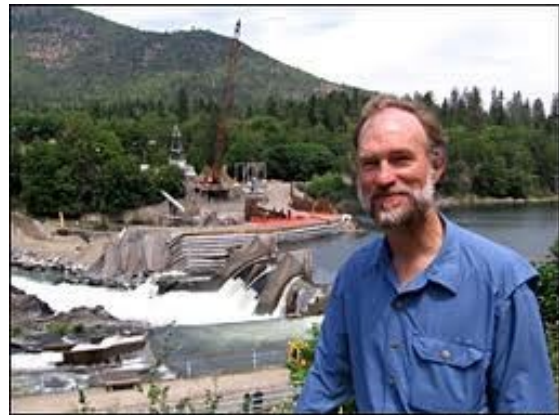
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in commercial farming on Tule Lake and Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuges. Waterwatch is also concerned that the built-in linkage of the KHSA to implementation of the KBRA is unnecessary and complicates dam removal. Go to <http://waterwatch.org/programs> for explanations of the Waterwatch standpoint and progress on Rogue, Klamath, and other Oregon water issues.

Though local, national and global environmental problems are immense, Bob says that he prefers to remain optimistic and work on solutions. He takes heart from the Rogue dam successes, and notes the expected improvement of salmon and steelhead fisheries as a result.

Bob's love of birding started in his youth when an uncle, Bill Hunter invited him to Point Pelee National Park in Ontario, known for its incredible spring songbird migration. He majored in zoology as an undergraduate and followed with a law degree, all at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. After moving to the Rogue Valley in 1978, he was a board member of RVAS in the 1980's, and now participates in Birdathons and CBC's. Birding travels have taken him to most of the 50 states, Australia, New Zealand, Costa Rica, Belize, Mexico, and Europe.

Bob and spouse Gretchen, who also enjoys bird-watching, live with two dogs on the Ousterhout family farm, where she manages a vineyard. Bob also enjoys fly fishing, rafting, hiking, cross country skiing, and backpacking. He happily recalls the big upset and other Birdathons with Gretchen, Frank, Dominic and Brian of the Great Grays.



Jessica Robinson/UPR

### Master Gardener Fair

Mark your calendar! The 32nd Annual Jackson County Master Gardener Spring Fair will be held at the EXPO on Saturday and Sunday, May 7 & May 8. This is the largest plant event between Portland and San Francisco. Last year approximately 8,000 persons attended to take advantage of the informational and educational opportunities as well as to purchase gardening and landscaping supplies and services.

The Spring Fair is a singular opportunity for public exposure to RVAS and KBO. Each year people stop by the booth to ask questions and tell stories as well as collect handouts, test their bird and habitat knowledge, look through guides and learn they are welcome to attend a program meeting or a field trip.

Volunteers are needed to staff the RVAS/ KBO booth. Contact Cherry at 541-621-2198 or at [loonypuffin@yahoo.com](mailto:loonypuffin@yahoo.com).

# ROGUE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

## THE CHAT

### Newsletter of the ROGUE VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

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### Calendar (See RVAS website for additional details ([roguevalleyaudubon.org](http://roguevalleyaudubon.org)))

**February 22**—Chapter Meeting—Dick Ashford  
**February 26**— Klamath Basin Field Trip  
**March 2**— First Wednesday Bird Walk  
**March 19**—Whetstone Savannah Field Trip  
**March 22**—Chapter Program Meeting—Bob Clay-  
pole  
**April 6**— First Wednesday Bird Walk  
**April 23**—Spring Migrants Field Trip  
**April 26**—Chapter Program Meeting—Dan Elster  
**April 30**— Birdathon  
**May 4** — First Wednesday Bird Walk  
**May 7/8**— Master Gardener Fair

### Calendar - *continued*

**May 14/15**— Overnight Coast Field Trip  
**May 24**— Annual Picnic at Tou Velle State  
Park  
**June 9—12**— Malheur Field Trip

