

Taking Wing

Klamath Wingwatchers, Inc.

Summer 2010 Newsletter



A nonprofit organization dedicated to public education regarding Klamath Basin wildlife and wetland habitat and their value as a natural resource, through scientific, arts and cultural means.

A Tribute to Terry Boyer

by Ralph Opp

While writing this I felt it to be a lot like a Eulogy to Terry, but I prefer to title it a TRIBUTE. I spoke recently to his wife Pat and told her we were paying tribute to Terry and she was very pleased.

I first became friends with Terry Boyer shortly after I came to Klamath in the late 1960s. In the early 1970s I quietly eased into becoming involved in promoting the values of nongame critters, especially for our area of the state. So called non game critters, the little feathered and furred things, were not yet real popular with my wildlife agency. I joined a local nongame birding type group actually started back in the 1950s or late 1940s, called the Nature Society.

It was later in the late 1970s that I somewhat reluctantly, as I lacked much experience in public speaking, took on what we called the Rubber Chicken Circuit; those clubs or service groups needing a bit of entertainment, especially at weekly luncheons. I think it was at one such luncheon for a Kiwanis or similar group where I first met up with the likes of TERRY BOYER. He surprisingly and strongly stuck up for me and wildlife in general then and since. He acted like Mr. Chamber of Commerce. We then and for a long time after had what I and others a called pissy tourism group or bureau for our area's abundant natural resources.

I ran into Terry numerous times since that time and more formerly when B.J. Matzen led the way in starting up a group, called Klamath Wingwatchers Inc. "To License the 'Hunting'", (or watching if you will), of Nongame wildlife in our area. I became involved with Wingwatchers shortly after it was launched in the mid 1980s and Terry was one of the four signers for Corporation and By Laws papers submitted in 1987, January and June respectively.

Terry consistently stayed very involved as a Board member and Officer of Wingwatchers and put in many hours volunteering on the trail (established in the late 1980s and early 1990s), at meetings, (his and ours) and got and kept his

Kiwanis chapter involved on the trail up until he couldn't master the trail any more a couple of years before he passed away. Terry later played a key part in helping more of us board members later write and obtain our KWW Federal 501(c)3 status. He also continually sat through a lot of planning, budget and grant seeking meetings.

Terry was certainly the longest term and active member of the Klamath Wingwatchers Inc. Terry died April 1, 2010 a few months short of his 90th birthday in October. (Born October 1920) Along with this tribute we will be dedicating one of several benches he helped to construct and place on the Wingwatchers trail.

I for one will certainly miss his cheerful greeting, smile and helping hand.

Dates and Notes

Board Meetings are the 4th Tuesday of every month at 409 Pine from 7-8:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. To add items to the agenda, email Leslie at inharmony46@charter.net or call 882-6509. The next Board Meeting will be Saturday July 31 after the Trail work Day. The meeting will be held in the small meeting room at Wingers Restaurant from 12:30 to 2:00.

Trail Work Days are the final Saturday of each month from 10 am until noon. Everyone is invited to join in meeting at the small parking area across from the Favell Museum. Mark your calendars for July 31, August 25, September 25 and October 30th.. Join our "team" to help out with this important work!

Membership

Dues can be paid at any time and are used to support our mission. See application on page 4.

Trail Maintenance Work Days

The last Saturday of each month through October, Wingwatchers will host trail work parties. Mark your calendars for July 31, August 25, September 25, and October 30. Please join our team to help with this important work. We need more workers on a regular basis to help Bill Wood, Trail Coordinator, to maintain the trail. It is just more than one man can be expected to do! Bring work gloves, but all other tools will be supplied. We will be digging or cutting noxious weeds, clearing or cutting back overgrowing brush, performing maintenance on benches and other trail structures, graveling worn spots, filling critter holes, and other duties as assigned by Bill. Workers will meet at the trailhead across from the Favell Museum. If you have questions, call Bill at 541-884-2421.

Here is the list of recently completed or “in progress” trail improvements:

- 1) We have completed all of the vegetation removal for safety on the trail. We will be doing ongoing maintenance work the last Saturday of each month from 10 am - noon.
- 2) Two families from Alturas built bird houses as part of a Disney Volunteer Day program. On March 27, we will be helped them put up the birdhouses each family brought with them.
- 3) We have compiled a 2' X 3' chart of all the folks and groups who have helped to make the Klamath Wingwatcher trail a community project. On March 27, the chart was mounted on our kiosk, built as an Eagle Scout project a few years ago.
- 4) The trail head sign which was falling apart from the weather. was revitalized by Ralph Opp and has been installed at the trailhead in time for the busy summer season.
- 5) Nearly 150 trees were planted on May 15th and about 150 more will be planted around the ponds south of the South Portal building.
- 6) Wingwatchers should shortly complete an agreement to have a storage shed for tool and equipment located at the South Portal center.

Calling all Educators

Wingwatchers is seeking school teachers who want to use the Wingwatchers trail for classroom learning projects. Have a project in mind? Need help finding a project? With enough advanced notice Wingwatchers may be able to provide a knowledgeable guide for groups who would like to use the trail for an educational outing. Contact Leslie at 882-6509 or email at inharmony46@charter.net.

On another note Bill Hunt, Director of the Klamath Outdoor Science School, is working on a directory of outdoor classroom resources available to Klamath Basin Educators. When completed, this valuable resource will be available on the KOSS website: “klamathoutdoorschool.org.” This directory will help with an upcoming effort to coordinate “Connecting Kids with Nature” programming within the Upper Klamath Basin.

Summer Nature Outings hosted at Moore Park and Wingwatchers Trail

Each Saturday through the end of August the Klamath Falls City Parks Department will be sponsoring trail walks at Moore Park and on the Wingwatchers Trail. Contact Susan Honea at Oregon State Extension Service for specific times and meeting locations at (541) 883-7131. No programs will be offered on Saturday July 3 due to the number of other programs and activities happening on the holiday weekend.



Wingwatchers Trail Summer Birds

by Dave Menke

Summer is a great time to enjoy the Wingwatchers Trail and all of the 90 wildlife species listed below have been seen during the summer months. My personal favorites are the first dozen listed below:

1. Green Heron
2. Spotted Sandpiper
3. Osprey
4. Violet-green Swallow
5. Common Yellowthroat
6. Western pond Turtle
7. Clark's Grebe
8. Cinnamon Teal
9. Sora
10. Virginia Rail
11. Caspian Tern
12. Snowy Egret
13. Canada Goose
14. Mallard
15. Cinnamon Teal
16. Northern Shoveler
17. Gadwall
18. Bufflehead
19. Ruddy Duck
20. Common Merganser
21. Lesser Scaup
22. Pied-billed Grebe
23. Eared Grebe
24. Am. White Pelican
25. Double-cr. Cormorant
26. Great Blue Heron
27. Great Egret
28. Bl.-crowned Nt. Heron
29. White-faced Ibis
30. Turkey Vulture
31. Bald Eagle
32. Northern Harrier
33. Red-tailed Hawk
34. American Kestrel
35. California Quail
36. American Coot
37. Killdeer
38. Black-necked Stilt
39. American Avocet
40. Greater Yellowlegs
41. Least Sandpiper
42. Long-billed Dowitcher
43. Wilson's Snipe
44. Ring-billed Gull
45. California Gull
46. Forster's Tern
47. Rock Pigeon
48. Mourning Dove
49. Vaux's Swift
50. Rufous Hummingbird
51. Belted Kingfisher
52. Downy Woodpecker
53. Hairy Woodpecker
54. Northern Flicker
55. Western-Wood Pewee
56. Dusky Flycatcher
57. Say's Phoebe
58. Western Kingbird
59. Warbling Vireo
60. Western Scrub-Jay
61. Black-billed Magpie
62. Common Raven
63. Tree Swallow
64. Northern R-w. Swallow
65. Cliff Swallow
66. Barn Swallow
67. Bushtit
68. Marsh Wren
69. American Robin
70. European Starling
71. Cedar Waxwing
72. Orange-cr. Warbler
73. Yellow Warbler
74. Wilson's Warbler
75. Spotted Towhee
76. Chipping Sparrow
77. Savannah Sparrow
78. Song Sparrow
79. Lincoln's Sparrow
80. Black-headed Grosbeak
81. Lazuli Bunting
82. Red-winged Blackbird
83. Western Meadowlark
84. Br.-headed Cowbird
85. Brewer's Blackbird
86. Bullock's Oriole
87. House Finch
88. Lesser Goldfinch
88. American Goldfinch
90. House Sparrow

We challenge any and all trail users to enjoy many of these birds along the Wingwatchers trail this summer.

New Birding Trail Leaflet "Takes Wing"

This Wingwatchers publication is a **MUST** for both local and visiting birders to the Klamath Basin. It is packed with an amazing variety of helpful information including detailed maps and colorful pictures. Those interested in quantity purchases of the new booklet should contact Cindy Deas at (541) 892-0596.



PHOTO GALLERY SUMMER BIRDS

All of the birds depicted below were photographed during the summer along the Wingwatchers Nature Trail



Marsh Wren (common in cattail marsh vegetation)



Yellow Headed Blackbird (nesting in cattails)



Lincoln's Sparrow (in brush and on ground)

WW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Leslie Lowe, President (541) 882-6509
- Ralph Opp, Secretary (541) 882-8488
- Allan Lowe, Treasurer (541) 882-6509
- Bill Wood, Trail Coordinator (541) 884-2421
- Ken Hay, Membership (541) 882-6028
- Dave Menke, Newsletter (541) 882-5473
- Harry Vincett (541) 885-2881
- Anita Ward (541) 884-2015
- Belinda Kerzel (541) 331-4788

Visit Wingwatchers at:

<http://klamathbirdingtrails.com/wingwatchers/index.shtml/>

**Ken Hay, Membership questions
(541) 882-6028**

Send membership dues to:

**KLAMATH WINGWATCHERS, INC
P.O. BOX 251
KLAMATH FALLS, OR 97601**

I wish to support the activities of the Klamath Wingwatchers, Inc. As a member, I will receive the "Taking Wings" newsletter and I may vote at the Annual Meeting for Board Members. Memberships are tax deductible.

MY MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE:

- Student/Senior.....\$ 10 _____
- Individual.....\$ 15 _____
- Family.....\$ 25 _____
- Business.....\$ 35 _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ **Zip:** _____

Email: _____

