

Taking Wing

Klamath Wingwatchers, Inc. Spring 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.

Wingwatchers Annual Meeting Features Fun Filled Fare!

Help us celebrate our achievements in 2009-2010. Members and their guests are invited to our Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 1 from 4-7 pm at the special studio/home of artist Stefan Savides at 7901 Washburn Way. This is a Pot Luck, so bring your favorite dish and your own place settings (we can avoid paper and plastic this way). Be sure to put it on your calendars and pay your dues by May 1. Special awards will be given out.

Ken Hay suggested that his talented wife Bonnie may be enticed to sing. Stefan has agreed to play his musical instruments as well. RSVP to Ken Hay <khay@ci.klamath-falls.or.us or call Leslie at 541-882-6509 to confirm your attendance at this event.



Western Tanager

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 is scheduled on April 20th.

April 24 and May 29— Work Days
(see Article on page 2)

May 8 — Klamath Falls International Migratory Bird Day. A family event at Veteran's Park 9 am—3pm

May 15 — Tule Lake Migratory Bird Festival hosted by the Klamath Basin Refuges and the Klamath Basin Wildlife Refuge Association

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 April 24, May 29, June 26, July 31, August 25, September 25, and October 30.

We need more helpers 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 trail improvements completed on March 27:

- 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 bird-houses 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, in the Pop Opp shop.

In addition, Dale Geigle completed the video he produced for KWW as part of the Chamber of Commerce program with the Herald and News. The video is on Herald and News website for the month of March, on the Chamber website so long as we are a member, and on the KBBT website. The new interpretive guide for the KWW trail will be completed and ready for printing soon.

Look for it at the Migratory Bird Day festival.

Our donated storage shed should be revitalized and available for use by May. Ken Hay and John Bellon of the City Parks Department have made this possible.

The beautiful new KBBT guides are now available for \$2 each at the Discover Klamath office at 205 Riverside and other locations throughout the Klamath Basin. This is the improved version of the original KBBT guide (See description on page 3 of this newsletter). It is in a much more user friendly format. Special thanks to Smith Bates Printing for discounting the cost of publishing, and Cindy Deas for all her hard work to make this possible. A Klamath County Tourism marketing grant covered \$10,000 of the printing costs. Wingwatchers is providing administrative support to make this project possible.



Short-eared Owl

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.

Wingwatchers Supports Publication of the New Klamath Basin Birding Trail Booklet

Klamath Wingwatchers is once again supporting the Klamath Basin Birding Trail publication which has been reformatted into a booklet with an attractive new cover and much improved content. The booklet contains the latest Klamath Basin bird checklist, answers to frequently asked questions and detailed maps of all 47 sites located along the Klamath Basin Birding Trail.

The revised booklet sells for \$ 2.00 and is currently available at the Discover Klamath office in the South Portal building, Leo's Camera, the Grange Coop and visitor centers at Crater Lake, Lava Beds Monument and the Klamath Basin Refuges headquarters on Tule Lake Refuge.

Sponsors of the new booklet include Smith Bates Printing, Kla-mo-ya Casino, Pacific Power, Wild Birds Unlimited (Medford), Main Street Tours (Ashland), Lonesome Duck Ranch and Resort, Discover Klamath, Carpenter Design, Rocky Point Resort, the Klamath Basin Audubon Society and the sales outlets at Lava Beds National Monument and the refuge visitor center.

This 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.

FAQ # 2 (from the new KBBT Booklet)

When is the best time of year to visit the Klamath Basin for a bird watching trip?

Timing of your visit to the Klamath basin depends on the type of birding experience you are seeking. General guidelines for when to visit to take advantage of popular bird watching opportunities are:

- A) Bald Eagles and other raptors are most abundant in Late November through mid-March.
- B) Spring and fall waterfowl migration peaks occur in the mid-March through mid-April and mid-October through late November time frames respectively.
- C) Breeding bird activity in the Klamath Basin is most prevalent from late April through early July.



Pelicans on Parade

Klamath Wingwatchers is now partnering with the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce to market the POP! pelicans. If you, or someone you know would like to buy one of these graceful sculptures for inside decor, and add a valued art piece to your home or office, submit your advance bid to the Chamber in person, or call them at 541-884-5193. A live auction is being planned for 2011. Pelican adornments range from exquisite stained glass, to decoupage fabric representing authentic quilting patterns, to original nature designs in oils and acrylics. One pelican is even a "living" pelican for an outside garden, complete with drip system, and covered in live plants.

Check out the pelicans on the Chamber's website: www.klamath.org/events/auction. Better yet, go downtown to view the pageantry of pelicans in person at the South Portal Visitor Center at 205 Riverside Drive, just past the Favell Museum. Choose from 16 statuesque pelicans, and help support wildlife appreciation, conservation, and education - with a focus on the future to connect kids to nature.

Pelican proceeds will focus on projects that "Connect Kids to Nature" - a core community message being developed for key Klamath Basin nature events (birding festivals, City nature trail activities, environmental education programs, KOSS outdoor nature camps, and the many Wingwatchers projects including the new Youth Education Trail Program. A "Connecting People with Nature" USFWS grant for \$5000 has been applied for (grant decision by April 15), and other grants are being researched to get funds for a POP! podcast, general POP! marketing, and funding for the live auction.

Special thanks to Rob & Maryann Langdon for helping with recent photo/text displays to market the pelicans at the South Portal. POP! purchases may be tax deductible, and matching contributions to the Oregon Cultural Trust may allow for further tax credits on your Oregon income tax (up to \$500 for individuals, \$1000 for couples filing jointly, and \$2500 for Oregon corporations). See also: www.culturaltrust.org, and www.pelicansonparade.com.



KWW 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

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: _____