Siskiyou Audubon Society generally meets on the second Thursday of each month from September through May. Since the novel coronavirus pandemic of 2020-21 began, in-person Chapter Meetings and other Society activities have been suspended in order to comply with guidelines – federal and state – aimed at halting the spread of the Covid-19 disease. Please, Members, be thoughtful and protect yourselves and those around you by wearing a mask, frequent hand washing, and social distancing.

SAS still cannot conduct nest box building with kids, nor in-person Chapter meetings. We can still sell nest boxes and feeders, but only by appointment. Call Fran Taylor at 541-955-2934 or email avnwmn2@gmail.com.

Chapter Meetings Will Be on Zoom, Virtual Conferencing Platform

An email invitation to the meeting will be sent to all members on our newsletter e-version list. If you receive your newsletter by postal mail, and wish to participate in the Zoom meeting, email Lee Webb at lowebb@charter.net well ahead of the meeting. An email with the link to the meeting will be sent out a few days before. Activate the link from your email a few minutes before 6:30 p.m. and the host will accept you into the meeting.

April Chapter Meeting - Thursday, April 8, 2021
6:30 p.m. Via Zoom

Nomination of Officers and Directors

Each year Siskiyou Audubon Society elects some officers and directors on a rotating schedule. Terms are two years beginning July 1 and ending June 30, in accordance with our fiscal year. Nominations for open offices are made in April, and the election is held in May. New officers and directors are installed during the June picnic.

This year the terms of President, Treasurer and one Director will expire at the end of June. During the April meeting we’ll ask for nominations. The Board of Directors has also prepared a slate of prospective candidates. At present Treasurer Susi Perry is willing to serve another term. Karen Welden is running for President, and the other position to be elected is one Director. Pat Webb said she would run for that, but we really need some new people on the Board. Members, please think things over and volunteer to run for a position, or be ready to nominate someone who is willing. Nominations will be taken during this meeting, and also at the May meeting just before the election.

Program: “World Birds - Non-Passerines” by John Taylor

After the business meeting, John Taylor will show photos of non-passerine birds from around the world, while Fran Taylor narrates life history notes on each species. Passerines are songbirds that, like finches and swallows, have three toes forward, one backward when sitting on a perch. Non-Passerines don't, nor do they sing - examples include kingfishers and hummingbirds. We hope you will join in.

Field Trip - Raptor Creek Farm - Tuesday, April 13, 2021
9:00 a.m. to about Noon
Details on Page 3.

May Chapter Meeting - Thursday, May 13, 2021
6:30 p.m. Via Zoom

Election of Officers & Directors

Program: "A Unique Life - Mary Paetzel - Naturalist, Author, Artist 1919-2007"
by Lee Webb
Details on Page 2.

June Chapter Picnic - Thursday, June 10, 2021
4:00 p.m. Onward
at home of Susan Bush
Details on Page 2.
Chapter Annual Meeting
Thursday, May 13, 2021, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

**2021 Election of Officers & Directors**

Election of Officers & Directors occurs every year for about half the Board of Siskiyou Audubon Society. In 2021, terms will expire for three offices – President, Treasurer and one Director. Nominations will be held during our Zoom Chapter Meeting on April 8, followed in May by the election, and installation of officers in June.

Terms are for two years. Board of Directors meetings are held monthly except in June, July and December, and last an hour or two. Currently, meetings are held via Zoom on weekday afternoons, but each incoming Board can determine its own meeting schedule. Members of the Board are also accustomed to attending Chapter meetings.

To perpetuate Siskiyou Audubon Society, Members, please be thinking of running for one of these positions. The same people have been doing all the jobs for our Society for far too long. If you have not recently served Audubon, step up now to help support and direct the activities of our club.

**Annual Chapter Picnic**

**Thursday, June 10, 2021**

**Beginning at 4:00 p.m.**

Susan Bush sill again host our annual Chapter picnic. In keeping with CDC guidelines, we will maintain social distancing and wear masks. Rather than being potluck, everyone will bring their own food and drink, as well as the usual accouterments: cutlery, plate and napkin, chair and perhaps a folding table. You might want mosquito repellent, as well.

Come at 4 so we can talk birds and go for a short bird walk to Susan’s “secret garden”. Newly elected officers and directors will be installed by outgoing President Pat Webb.

**Zoom Host Needed**

As the pandemic continues and Siskiyou Audubon wants to hold meetings by Zoom, we need to have a computer-savvy member to prepare the link and notify Members. One would need to help members in how signing up for the Zoom application; how to sign up for participation in our Zoom meetings; operate the platform during the meeting so programs can be shown.

For our first time, the April 8, 2021 Chapter Meeting, Zoom., Lee Webb will host. To volunteer for this important new role, please get in touch with President Pat Webb 541-660-3004; pannwebb@charter.net to sign up. Lee is willing to help the new host get started.

**Recent Activities**

Although SAS is not generally holding nest box building with children, Brenda Patton’s “College Dreams” kids were a special project on March 25th, when Linda Mullens and Lee Webb helped them build 12 nest boxes.

Since we weren’t able to have a large-scale building day, folks have been taking kits home and building nest boxes a few at a time. These in turn are being sold to the public through appointments with Fran T. or Lee W. or Phil H.

**Keep Cats Indoors**

Why keep cats indoors? Predation by domestic cats is the number-one direct, human-caused threat to birds in the United States and Canada. In the United States alone, outdoor cats kill approximately 2.4 Billion birds every year. That’s 6 Million 600 Thousand birds every day. Although the number may seem unbelievable, it represents the combined impact of tens of millions of outdoor cats. Not to mention that they are edging out native predators like foxes and weasels.

Siskiyou Audubon Society promotes keeping cats indoors. Keeping cats indoors is safer for cats and safer for birds. American Bird Conservancy has provided brochures and flyers to help inform people of the problems caused by outdoor cats. Karen W. Has ordered supplies of these, and placed them in public places around town. If you would like to help, call Karen contact Karen at karen_welden@yahoo.com or phone 541-226-9607. Find out more at American Bird Conservancy: www.abcbirds.org or email abc@abcbirds.org.

**Correction:** In *The Siskin* *306*, the American Coot picture was taken by Mike Nelson.

*The Siskin*
Audubon Society Membership Form
Siskiyou Audubon is a nonprofit society under IRC §501(c)3, Tax ID #93-0866572. Subscriptions are tax-deductible. Send your application with dues payment to the address shown on the form, or join National Audubon at website www.audubon.org.

Siskiyou Audubon Society Membership - Local
Pay and Mail this to: Siskiyou Audubon Society, P.O. Box 2223, Grants Pass, OR 97528
I wish to become a local member:  G $15.00 Regular  G $10.00 Student  G Extra Donation $ ____________
Name ______________________________________________________   New G Renewal G
Phone ______-______-__________ Renewal Date _____________________
REQUIRED: E-mail Address ______________________________________
OR: I do not have email. Please send a printed copy of The Siskin to me by U.S. mail, to
Address: _______________________________________, City, State ______________________ Zip Code

Audubon National Audubon Society - Join us Online at www.audubon.org
National Audubon Society membership is $30 per year (or more), which includes membership in Siskiyou Audubon Society, Chapter T61. Also included: subscriptions to both Audubon Magazine and The Siskin newsletter.

Field Trip - Raptor Creek Farm
Tuesday, April 13, 2021
9:00 a.m. to about Noon
Margaret James and Fran Taylor will lead a bird walk on Raptor Creek Farm, Josephine County Food Bank’s farm and warehouse at 3658 Upper River Rd., Grants Pass. Call Fran Taylor at 541-291-0506 or email sisqaudubon@gmail.com to pre-register for this free bird walk, which will be limited to 15 people. Our bird walk will start at 9 a.m. with a short talk by Kristin Smith and Jeff Meier, Farm managers. Then we’ll walk around the grounds looking for Western Bluebirds, goldfinches, Swallows, woodpeckers, and, of course, raptors. (Fran and Margaret got 4 species of raptor one hour during a scouting trip in March.)

The farm property was acquired by the City of Grants Pass in 2006 as part of the Naumes Family farm, a.k.a. River Road Preserve. The Food Bank came onto the scene in 2010 when it was granted permission to plant a concept garden on 2 acres of unused land on the north side of Upper River Road. After a successful 2010 growing season, the Food Bank moved all operations to the farm and have produced an average of over 40,000 pounds of fresh grocery quality produce for hungry individuals and families in our community each year since. To learn more about Josephine County Food Bank and Raptor Creek Farm, visit their website at www.jocofoodbank.org, phone 541-479-5556 or email info@jocofoodbank.org.

“I Saw a Bird” National Audubon Video Series
This monthly show highlights funny, engaging, educational, and sometimes weird bird-related topics and discussion, all while fostering a sense of community for everyone who has found joy in birds while stuck at home. Tune in the last Wednesday of each month at 4 p.m. (Pacific Time) for the current episode, through either Facebook or Zoom, which will be determined when you register. Recordings of previous episodes, beginning April 1, 2020, can be viewed without registration by going to the same website (www.audubon.org/news/i-saw-bird) for YouTube videos.

Bird Cams
Want to see into the private lives of birds? Go to any of these “Bird Cams” to see eggs, nestlings, feeding behavior and more: www.allaboutbirds.org/cams: See Barred Owls, Red-tailed Hawks, osprey, albatross, petrel, Panama fruit feeders and some seed feeder sites from this Cornell Lab of Ornithology site.
See Audubon’s Hog Island, Maine osprey nest at www.audubon.org/birdcams, which also has links to other bird cams. Explore.org has live cameras on birds and animals. Watch a nest of Bald Eagles at Decorah, Iowa feeding two chicks. Birdcams.live has cameras on a variety of birds around the world.
Siskiyou Audubon Society Directory

[Before Covid: Six issues of The Siskin, newsletter of Siskiyou Audubon Society ("SAS"), are sent out each year by postal mail & email.] Now: Due to suspension of activities, some issues of The Siskin may be skipped or combined. Send address corrections & items for publication to Editor, P.O. Box 2223, Grants Pass, OR 97528; phone 541-955-2934 or e-mail to sisqaudubon@gmail.com. Articles and photos submitted to The Siskin for publication may be edited for size or clarity. Reprinting of articles from this publication is permitted except when the article is under copyright, and provided credit is given to both the author and the newsletter.

SAS will announce when it may again conduct monthly meetings, which are on the 2nd Thursday, September through June, except July & August. The SAS Board of Directors expects to continue monthly or at times determined by the Board by socially distant means.

Officers

President: Pat Webb. Term Expires June 2021
Vice-President: Phil Hicks. Term Expires June 2022
Secretary: Margaret James. Term Expires June 2022
Treasurer: Susan Perry. Term Expires June 2021

Directors

Susan Bush Term Expires June 2022
Mike Klem Term Expires June 2022
Karen Welden Term Expires June 2021

Committees and Chairpersons

Education - [Vacant]
Executive Assistant - Marsha Hicks
Nest Box Building - Lee Webb & Phil Hicks
Programs - Christie Nelson
Membership - Lee Webb sisqaudubon@gmail.com
Web & Media - Pat Etchells
Ornithologist - Dennis Vroman
Publications - Newsletter Editor - Fran Taylor Meeting Notices - Page 1
Chapter News - Page 2
Membership Forms to Join Audubon - Page 3
Directory & Upcoming Events - Page 4

Upcoming Events

Thurs. Apr. 8: Siskiyou Audubon Chapter Meeting by Zoom, 6:30 p.m. Open to all members. Link to the meeting will be sent by email to those who get The Siskin by email. Others interested, call or email Lee Webb to get on the list: lowebb@charter.net Nominations will be taken for new Officers & Directors. Program: Non-Passerines of the World.

Tues. Apr. 13: Field Trip to Raptor Creek Farm Call Fran Taylor to register: 541-291-0506 or email sisqaudubon@gmail.com. 9 a.m. to about Noon.

