# The Klamath Bird

Newsletter of the Klamath Bird Observatory, Summer 2006

Science, Education, and Partnerships

# Field Biologist Extraordinaire

Kim Brunskill, KBO Education & Outreach Intern



Otis Swishe

On one of those
July days when
your knees get
red and sweaty
if you sit crosslegged too long,
I dragged a
picnic table into
the only foot of
shade outside of
the KBO
Headquarters at
Willow Wind

Community Learning Center. Setting in front of me my notepad, pen, and tape recorder, I eagerly awaited the arrival of a local bird biologist legend — Otis Swisher. For over fifty years, Otis has played a vital role in bird research in the Rogue Valley and has encouraged and inspired bird enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels. During a time of intense field work, it seemed only fitting that KBO dedicate its summer newsletter to

field biology and highlight this longterm, well-respected field biologist who has given much to KBO.

Beginnings of a Bird Biologist. Otis was introduced to birds in 1951 while working at a youth summer camp. A coworker and avid birder pointed out a bird close by on the ground and handed Otis a pair of binoculars. After a quick look, the binoculars were handed back. "What did you see?" Otis didn't know. "Did it have wing bars?" Otis didn't know. "What color was its tail?" Otis didn't know. "Are you sure you were looking at a bird?" That day was the first of many spent observing birds both through binoculars, and, eventually, in the hand.

<u>Passion</u>. Since the time he moved here in 1953 from Texas, Otis has been actively involved in the local community. Co-founder of the Rogue Valley Audubon Society, one-time president of the Western Bird Banders Association,



#### Inside this Field Biology issue:

Mapping the Bird's Backyard	2
Intro to KBO Interns	2-
Springtime Bird Banding Workshop Hosted	4
Klamath Basin Birding Trail	4
Tips for Bird Appreciation	5
Bird Bio: Lazuli Bunting	5
Trivia Corner	6
KBO Calendar	6
Wildlife Days in California	7

and long-time bird bander, he maintains passion and enthusiasm for birds and the issues that effect their conservation in the valley and beyond. During our interview he often got that child-like gleam of delight in his eye as he recounted stories of interesting bird sightings. His most recent experience occurred just a month earlier, on June 26th. After fifty years of studying birds, Otis saw his first Horned Lark courtship display. "Breathtaking," he said in a whisper, his eyes illuminated with the memory.

(Continued on page 7)

# A Day in the Life of a KBO Banding Intern

Susan Culliney, KBO Banding Intern

"Zero CP, W for BP, trace fat, no body molt, N wing molt, M pp wear," I say, having blown the feathers all over the bird's body. I pause for breath and grab the wing ruler. "Wing of 65." Flicking the optivisors down I exclaim, "and molt limits of G and V — there are three generations of feathers here!" Then I fit the bird snugly into a plastic cup for weighing. "12.9 grams," I tell my recorder, and slip the bird into my hand for release. She sits for a second in my palm, looking around, then is off with a whir of wings and a chirp. And it's time to check the nets again!

As I trudge up the steep path to the upper nets, I think back to how the day started. Before dawn, even before the birds were singing, I crawled out of my tent and mixed powdered

milk, water, and granola together in a Tupperware for breakfast by headlamp and stars. Only the faintest lightening on the horizon told me that day would soon differentiate from the night sky. When my fellow bander and I arrived at our Oregon Caves banding site, we started setting up nets in that wonderful pre-dawn light and cool air with the song of a Varied Thrush and the drumming of a grouse greeting us.

Continuing my check of the nets, I see that nets two, three, and four are bird-free, and so I wade across the small stream that runs through the banding site. Net five has a Nashville Warbler who is easily extracted from the fine

(Continued on page 2)

Page 2 The Klamath Bird

#### Science

# Mapping the Bird's Backyard

Christine Roy, KBO Field Intern

In the Applegate Valley of Southern Oregon, KBO is working with the BLM and USGS on a project funded by the Joint Fire Sciences Program. KBO's role is to determine the effects of prescribed burning in riparian areas on bird life. Nine species of birds are being observed at four different riparian study sites slated for prescribed burning. The species selected include: Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Blackheaded Grosbeak, Western Tanager, Cassin's Vireo, Hutton's Vireo, Oregon Junco, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Nashville Warbler, and Hermit Warbler. KBO is applying a technique called "spot mapping" to determine if the birds are using the riparian areas for reproduction. Essentially, spot mappers "map out" a bird's territory by recording a singing or calling bird's position, movements of individuals, interactions between birds, and any signs of breeding behavior within the study area. After repeated visits to a study site, the findings are used to define the bird's territory. In addition to mapping territories, we are collecting information to determine if the birds are successfully breeding. KBO is using a specific Reproductive Index to classify, on a scale from 1-7, observed breeding behaviors (Vickery, 1992). A ranking of (1) means that a territorial male was in the area for at least four weeks and a ranking of (2) means a pair was in an area. A ranking of (3) includes signs of nest building, laying or incubation of eggs, and distraction displays. A ranking of (4) is the observation of adults carrying food to nestlings, or direct observation of young in a nest. Rankings of (5), (6), and (7)

are all evidence of fledalina success. This method is less labor intensive and less invasive than the more commonly used nest searching method. In addition to the data we are collecting on the birds themselves, we are also gathering insect and vegetation data because we hypothesize that the birds will be effected by changes in vegetation and food availability after the prescribed burn occurs. These efficient and non-disruptive methods will allow us to

#### Field Interns

Jaime Stephens, KBO Research **Biologist** 

As part of a study on the effects of fuels reduction within riparian habitats, two KBO interns are assessing reproductive success of several songbird species in the Applegate Valley of southern Oregon. Christine Roy is a senior at Paul Smith College in New York. Her favorite part of the internship is that her job is to go birding! Stuart Fety comes to us from Kenyon College in Ohio. He is excited to spend the summer in his own backyard, as he is a graduate of Rogue River High School.

determine the effects of prescribed burning on the reproductive success of the focal species over the next three years of this study.

Vickery, P.D., Hunter, M.L. Jr., and Wells, J.V. (1992). Use of a New Reproductive Index to Evaluate Relationship Between Habitat Quality and Breeding Success. The Auk. 109(4): 697-705.

#### A Day In the Life (Continued from page 1)

mesh net. Between nets six and seven I spot a young Blackheaded Grosbeak, with wisps of down still poking through

his feathers, plaintively begging for food from an adult nearby. Rounding the corner to net eight, I see a medium sized bird hanging quietly in its far end. Coming up to it, I realize it's a sapsucker, but not one I've ever seen. When I take hold of his body, he vocalizes as is typical of some species. A Steller's Jay has come down to see what the fuss is about, but he wings off into the forest as I re-set the net and return to the banding station.

Pulling the sapsucker out of his bag reinvigorates his self-expression. Amidst his loud punctuated calls, we identify him as a juvenile

wing patch had fooled me into thinking he was an entirely different species. He is measured and weighed, and a small aluminum band is placed on his leg so that if he is captured

again, he will be recognized. Data complete, my hand provides his take-off platform, and he flies off in song.

> Soon it's time to close the nets, pack up, and head back to the car. Back up on the mountain, the Varied Thrush, Sooty Grouse, Nashville Warbler, the Steller's Jays, the Grosbeak family, the young Sapsucker, and many more, are still up there. Some of them now have bands on them and many of them were identified and counted. The data collected today will give us an opportunity to know more about these birds and prove valuable in their continued conservation far into the future.

Overhead, a juvenile Northern Goshawk circles slowly, providing one more "wow" for a day already full of great birds. My fellow intern and I

Red-breasted Sapsucker. His reddish-brown head and white pile into the car and roll off toward new birds and experiences, to our next site where we'll start the whole thing over again.



Susan in the Field Photo: J. Stephens, KBO

Page 3 The Klamath Bird

## **Pushing Higher**

#### **KBO Staff Continue Their Educations**

Continuing the KBO staff tradition of pairing education with their work, three KBO staff members are pursuing or have recently completed higher education degrees. Nat Seavy, a post-doctoral research associate for KBO, graduates from the University of Florida with a Ph.D. in Zoology. His dissertation, titled "Effects of disturbance on animal communities: Fire effects on birds in mixed-conifer forest," was based in part on data collected by KBO from the Applegate Valley in southern Oregon. Ashley Dayer, KBO's Education and Outreach Director, graduates from Colorado State University with her Masters of Science in Human Dimensions of Natural Resources. Her thesis, "Public preferences for allocating funds to wildlife conservation: A stated choice-social psychological approach", explored western United States residents' priorities for conservation. Ashley is now attending Southern Oregon University parttime to earn a Certificate in Non-profit Management through coursework and projects for KBO, such as creating fundraising and marketing plans. Executive Director John Alexander has begun his Ph.D. program in Sustainability Education through Prescott College. His dissertation will focus on the use of science to implement bird conservation objectives on-the-ground. Utilizing results from local research projects, John will work with land managers to integrate bird conservation objectives with priority management issues and then track subsequent land management decisions.

## So Many Birds, So Little Time

Jaime Stephens, KBO Research Biologist

Point count data tells us what bird species and how many are breeding in a given area at that time. We have point count routes located throughout Southern Oregon and Northern California, and the data contribute to a number of projects. These data help determine both the effects of habitat change on individual species, as well as long-term trends of regional bird populations. This spring KBO completed 109 point count routes, along which a surveyor visited an average of twelve stations for five minutes each, recording all birds seen and heard. Over 1300 point count stations were surveyed! These surveys are completed when birds are on their breeding grounds and actively defending a territory. In order to accomplish this magnitude of surveys in a short time period, KBO contracts experienced point counters who have expertise in this methodology and can identify all regional birds by sight and sound. This year we had four skilled point count contractors return to KBO for the field season: Dave Haupt, Jherime Kellerman, Frank Lospalluto, and Kevin Spencer.

## 2006 Banding Interns

Bob Frey, KBO Biologist & Banding Program Leader

KBO's long-term bird monitoring efforts are integrated with our banding training program. Interns are provided training in specialized methods of bird banding that include advanced-level ornithological topics and



Intern Ana Maria Gonzalez Photo: A. Dayer, KBO

experiential learning at our monitoring sites. Each year, 8-12 individuals are selected from many applicants to our Banding Internship Program. Our group in 2006 is simply phenomenal and a great pleasure to work with.

Senior intern and excellent field crew leader lan Ausprey is a graduate of Middlebury College (Vermont) whose current research interest is migratory songbird stopover ecology. Cara Lovell, also a Middlebury College

graduate, is combining her internship in the Banding and Education programs. Thane Tupper of Washington is an avid falconer and is an undergraduate at Evergreen State College (Washington). Susan Culliney, of Hawaii and graduate of Bowdoin College (Maine) is preparing for graduate studies in raptor and endangered species monitoring. Bill Trione, holding degrees from Texas A & M University, University of Texas, and California State University, brings experience from careers in the military and the financial industry, and a variety of bird conservation work throughout the western US. Danny Karp is in the midst of undergraduate studies at Stanford

University and has great enthusiasm for birds and bird watching. Ana Maria Gonzalez and Diana Velasco, both of Colombia and graduates of Universidad del Tolima, are biologists with Fundacíon ProAves Colombia. Chris Samuels of Jamaica, is a biologist with the Windsor Research Centre and Birdlife Jamaica. These three international biologists are advancing professional skills to enhance careers at home.



Intern Chris Samuels removing a bird from a mist net Photo: A. Dayer, KBO

KBO could not complete our vast amount of bird monitoring without the dedication of these bright and energetic people. In return, we are dedicated to providing a professional-level learning experience to biologists from throughout the Americas.

Page 4 The Klamath Bird

#### Education

# Klamath Basin Birding Trail

Ashley Dayer, KBO Education & Outreach Director

KBO is promoting awareness of the 47 Klamath Basin Birding Trail (KBBT) sites through a variety of public events this summer. Klamath Wingwatchers contracted KBO through a Title III Forest Education grant to design and utilize Forest Education Kits. In June, KBO educators exposed approximately 100 people to KBBT and the kits during three events. High school students at Resources and People (RAP) Camp at Lake of the Woods, learned how to use binoculars and field guides and sighted local avifauna. Three kit activities entertained young campers at the Klamath Falls YMCA: Bird Olympics, the Challenges of Migration Obstacle Course, and Using Binoculars to view adult Bullock's Orioles feeding their nestlings. A Saturday field trip included an introduction to birding at Howard Bay (KBBT site 26), a visit to a KBO Banding Station at Seven Mile Guard Station (KBBT site 9), and a bird-watching picnic at Crystal Springs Wayside (KBBT site 18).

Future trips are scheduled for August 12th and September 30th. Participants will visit KBBT sites, including a banding station. An open house for educators will be held on September 21st at Klamath County OSU Extension, which will include information and instruction on how to use the educational kits in classrooms and the field. KBO and Wingwatchers are planning additional programs this year.

For more information on the Klamath Basin Birding Trail and programs, visit www.klamathbirdingtrails.com

#### Member Event

Amy Busch, KBO Education & Outreach Intern

KBO and Rogue Valley Audubon Society (RVAS) hosted their first joint member event at the Willow Wind Learning Center in Ashland, on July 15, 2006. Fifty members, staff, and volunteers participated in the morning events, which provided opportunities to experience KBO's research and education efforts, and to learn more about RVAS. Participants saw banding in action, conducted spot mapping surveys with staff, and tested their skills on the migration obstacle course. The highlight of the day was a Virginia Rail caught in a mist net.

If summer plans hindered your opportunity to Photo: V. Zauskey, attend this inaugural event, don't worry! KBO will offer more member events for the birding community soon.



Virgina Rail KBO Member

# **KBO Co-hosts Springtime** Bird Banding Workshop

Ashley Dayer, Education & Outreach Director

As the songbird breeding season got underway in May, KBO and Redwood Sciences Laboratory hosted a Springtime Bird Banding Workshop at KBO's Field Station at Upper Klamath Lake, Staff and interns who band for the Klamath Demographic Monitoring Network took part in this bird banding techniques workshop which included lectures, seminars, demonstrations, and hands-on training with expert evaluation. Techniques for the intricate process of identifying breeding conditions and aging birds were emphasized. Participants also enjoyed a bird imitation competition and birding by canoe to view black terns.



Intern Cara Lovell enhancing her banding Photo: A. Dayer, KBO

# Intro to Education and **Outreach Interns**

Ashley Dayer, KBO Education & Outreach Director

This summer Southern Oregon University Environmental Education Masters students Kim Brunskill, Amy Busch, and Yahaira Lopez are applying their education and skills as KBO Education and Outreach Interns. They come to KBO with a wide range of experiences. Kim has worked as a camp counselor, wilderness guide, field science instructor, and challenge course facilitator in Oregon, Maine, and California. Amy has led backpacking trips in Hawaii, developed and presented interpretive programs in Alaskan national parks, and instructed school groups on marine science on Santa Catalina Island, California. Yahaira grew up and attended college in Puerto Rico before interning for the Student Conservation Association and National Park Service in Washington, DC and then working with a variety of environmental organizations in Oregon. These students are participating in education and outreach events as well as focusing on specific KBO projects. Kim is enhancing the website, editing the summer newsletter, and creating outreach materials, while Amy is creating educational banding station materials, co-planning the July member event, and researching techniques for KBO to evaluate their education efforts. Yahaira is developing and implementing curriculum for summer camps and designing a volunteer program and comprehensive manual.

Page 5 The Klamath Bird

# Tips for Bird Appreciation: Our Newest Birds

Nathaniel Seavy, KBO Research Associate

By the end of August, nearly all of Oregon's birds have finished nesting. Although some pairs may have lost their young to predators or inclement weather, many will have successfully produced several young birds. If we assume that for every adult bird there is one young bird that has just left the nest, then immediately after the breeding season there are twice as many birds as there were a few months earlier. Many of these young birds have unique plumages. Learning to recognize these birds can help you appreciate the reproductive cycles and behaviors of birds in your area.

While in the nest, these young birds have grown their first set of feathers, called juvenal plumage. In many species, this plumage is different from that of adult birds. In some species these differences are subtle, but for others they can be dramatic, making young birds a challenge to identify.

Many raptors have unique juvenal plumages. For example, when Red-tailed Hawks leave the nest their tails are brown, not red, and their breasts are very light, lacking the characteristic rufous wash of adults. By the following spring, these birds will have molted into the adult plumage. However, in other raptors (e.g., Bald and Golden Eagles) the transition from the juvenal plumage may take a number of years, making it possible to recognize several age classes based on plumage characteristics.

Another species with a distinctive juvenal plumage is the American Robin. After fledging, these young can often be identified by their speckled breast and streaked back. This

plumage does not last long. By September many of these young birds have already replaced these speckled feathers with the unspotted orange of the adults.

Already challenging to identify, the juvenal plumages of the sparrows adds another layer of complexity in the summer and fall. The Dark-eyed Junco, distinctive as an adult, looks similar to other sparrows as a juvenile. They might be mis-

taken for another species until the adult arrives to feed them. However, like the American Robin, these young replace their feathers by the end of the summer.

Some species of songbirds have coloration very similar to the adults when they fledge. The Chestnut-backed Chickadee is such an example. However, the juvenile feathers are of a lesser quality as they were grown quickly, making them appear fluffy.



Fledgling Chestnut-backed Chickadees Photo: J. Stephens, KBO

To learn more about the distinctive plumages of young birds, you can consult your favorite field guide or visit a KBO banding station (see schedule of events). Learning to identify young birds can help one appreciate this important component of healthy bird populations.

# Bird Bio: Lazuli Bunting, Passerina amoena

Cara Lovell, KBO Banding Intern

The Lazuli Bunting is a banding crew favorite, and we often can't help smiling when we capture these spectacular birds. The blue head and back, rusty breast, and white wing bars make the male stand out, while the drabber females can be an identification mystery until we find the delicate blue wash on the rump or carpal wing joint.

The striking color of the Lazuli Bunting looks chalky close up, as if it might rub off on your hand. This is because the iridescent blue is a "structural color," not a pigment. Tiny particles in the feather scatter only short wavelengths, on the blue end of the spectrum. If you put the feather between you and the light, the blue disappears.

This species is fun for banders to age using molt limits. It grows (molts) adult feathers in a different sequence than most songbirds, therefore the retained juvenal plumage help us identify first year breeders.

You don't need to visit areas exclusive to biologists in order

to see a Lazuli Bunting. This bird might frequent your back yard or nearby fields, as it is found in shrubs, open spaces and forest edges within the western half of the United States. It breeds in northern California west of the Sierra Nevada and in Oregon east of the Cascades and in some western valleys. They have been known to interbreed with the Indigo Bunting where their ranges overlap in the Great Plains and Southwest.



Male Lazuli Bunting Photo: KBO File

Their song is a quick warbly one—we remember it in pairs: two medium-pitched notes, two low, then two high followed by a rapid jumble of notes. Luckily they like to perch exposed while they sing, so you can spot that splash of blue. You'll have to get moving to enjoy them, though, as some begin to migrate to western Mexico at the end of July!

Page 6 The Klamath Bird

#### KBO Calendar—Join KBO for Summer & Fall Events

- August 19: KBO Bird Walk on Mount Ashland, OR. Meet at 8am at Northwest Nature Shop. To register, call 482-3241.
- August 24: "Monitoring Klamath-Siskiyou Bird Populations: Klamath Bird Observatory's Efforts to Keep Common Bird Common" 7pm at ScienceWorks Museum.
- August 26: "Birds and Biologists" KBO Family Day (offered through SOU Hot Classes!), Ashland, OR. To register, visit www.sou.edu/ecp/youth
- August 26: KBO Day at ScienceWorks Museum, Ashland, OR. 10am Banding Station Visit, 12pm Bird Biologists Slideshow and Talk, 3pm Migration Obstacle Course.
- September 9: KBO Bird Walk in Medford, OR. Meet at 8am at Wild Birds Unlimited. To register, call 770-1104.
- September 16: KBO Bird Walk in Ashland, OR. Meet at 8am at Northwest Nature Shop. To register, call 482-3241.
- September 21: Klamath Basin Birding Trail Forest Education Kit Teacher Open House, OSU Extension, Klamath Falls, 4pm-6pm. For more information, call 883-7131 ex. 212

- September 23: Greenways Adventure Day at Blue Heron Park in Phoenix, OR. 11:30am—5pm. Take a bird walk with KBO or run the Migration Obstacle Course.
- September 30: Klamath Basin Birding Trail Bird Walk & Banding Station Visit. Meet at 7:30am at Klamath Community College, Klamath Falls, OR. To register, call 880-2249.
- October 7: Salmon Fest at North Mountain Park in Ashland,
  OR. 11am—4pm. Celebrate the connection between people and salmon of the Bear Creek
  Watershed. Learn about birds that rely on
  salmon with KBO. For more information,
  www.bearcreeksalmonfestival.org
- October 14: KBO Bird Walk in Medford, OR. Meet at 8am at Wild Birds Unlimited. To register, call 770-1104.
- October 21: KBO Bird Walk in Ashland, OR. Meet at 8am at the Northwest Nature Shop. To register, call 482-3241.

NOTE: School and community groups are invited to schedule a visit to a KBO Banding Station, a classroom visit, or a KBO presentation. Email KBO@klamathbird.org or call 201-0866, ext 3.

## Trivia Corner—Q&A

Ashley Dayer, KBO Education & Outreach Director

# From what roots did field biology grow?

- a. Einstein
- b. Christopher Columbus
- c. William Shakespeare
- d. Aristotle

While Shakespeare referred to birds in many of his works, thespians (not field biologists) tend to take inspiration from the Bard. Ancient philosophers like Aristotle were the first to study and analyze the diversity of the natural world. Such studies gained momentum during the Renaissance and by the 18th century was considered "natural history." 19th century collectors created large natural history museum collections that we still have today. "Natural history" is used less often used today—instead we call scientists by their focused areas of research (e.g., ornithologists, botanists). Those collecting data in the "field" are referred to as field biologists (or more precisely, field ornithologists, field botanists, etc). The "field" work is often in places quite different from a farm field or meadow—the images we often associate with the word. In fact, field biologists work on icecaps in the arctic, in deep caves, on boats in the ocean, or at Banding Stations in forested areas of the Klamath-Siskiyou Bioregion.

Page 7 The Klamath Bird

## **Partnerships**

# Wildlife Days in California

Sam Cuenca, Wildlife Biologist Scott River Ranger District Klamath National Forest

On May 19th, Happy Camp's River Park was transformed for an outdoor celebration and day of discovery for over 90 3rd — 6th grade students. Youth from four Klamath River Schools learned about wildlife along the river, including big game, bats, reptiles, amphibians, migratory birds and aquatic insects. KBO Education & Outreach Director Ashley Dayer and local bird expert Bob Claypole (Audubon Representative) provided participants with a plethora of information on birds of the area.

The intent of the day was to bring together our local kids, and introduce them to their local wildlife. The teaching cadre was able to share a vast amount of wildlife knowledge with these students. Happy Camp Ranger District's

Veronica Selvage stated, "The day was very successful. Children had a great time learning about our local species and got to take home a



Bob Claypole & Ashley Dayer w/students Photo: V. Selvage, KNF

lot of cool information." Lunchtime activities included live music, and a raffle of wildlife-oriented donations.

This workshop was sponsored by the Siskiyou County Resource Advisory Committee and was made successful with a unique partnership between the Klamath National Forest, KBO, and the Audubon Society.

#### Otis Swisher (Continued from page 1)

<u>Dedication</u>. That's what it takes to band over 3,000 birds in three years. Otis became a bird-bander "by luck." Through a mutual friend's recommendation, Carl Richardson took Otis under his wing and taught him the tools of the trade. "This is my greatest achievement," Otis says as he opens up the manila folder that had been tucked under his hands on the picnic table. Neatly printed in blue and purple markers were bird-banding records from 1969 to 1972. Otis's research aided in the preservation of the Bear Creek corridor as important bird habitat. "Bear Creek is the 'I-5' for birds," he insists. For three or four weekends a month during those years, Otis set up his banding station, using mist-nets at Barnett Road in Medford. For three years he led the Western Bird Banders in captures of Willow Flycatchers (then, Traill's Flycatchers), sometimes banding as many as 50 in one day. Otis single-handedly banded over 62% of all the Willow Flycatchers on record from Alaska to the Mexico border. In addition, he banded these "firsts" for Oregon: Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Black Phoebe, Veery, and Blackchinned Sparrow which at the time was at least 300 miles north of its known range.

Lost Wonders. Roxy Ann Peak in Medford was the place to study birds in the 1960s. Casual birders and ornithologists alike flocked from all over to get a glimpse of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, at that time the only known place to find them in Oregon. Otis laments the loss of numerous small marshes around the valley. He recalls that Dr. Ronald Lamb, professor at Southern Oregon University was able to visit a small marsh across from Hoover Elementary, Medford, with his birding classes, and "Bam!" could see a Rail.

<u>Studying Birds Today.</u> Otis recommends Emigrant Lake, Agate Lake, the Kirtland Road drying beds, Mount Ashland, the Denman Wildlife Management Area, and Roxy Ann Butte amongst other good birding spots in the valley for observing birds. For himself, Otis prefers his backyard where he can admittedly spend hours watching the Oak woodland birds, and his favorites, the "Little Brown Jobs."

KBO Inspiration. Otis has provided KBO with a treasure trove of data, helping us toward an important goal — archiving and making available valuable scientific data. He often stops by KBO headquarters to visit with our staff and contributes much needed supplies in support of KBO's banding program. Otis always responds generously to our various fundraising campaigns. John Alexander, KBO Executive Director says of Otis, "[His] commitment to bird banding in the West and his use of science to inform conservation is a model for the Klamath Bird Observatory. We are honored to have Otis as a mentor, supporter, and friend."

#### **KBO** Wish List

You can contribute to conservation by supporting KBO through memberships, contributions, and donations. The following sponsorships and donations are greatly needed. Thanks for your support!

New member donations are now matched by an anonymous donor! Give to KBO now and double your impact!!

#### **Sponsorship Opportunities**

\$500, one month stipend for one intern, Bird Banding or Education and Outreach

#### **Donations**

Frequent flyer miles for staff conference travel
Double-wide trailer for housing at a KBO field station
Small pick-up truck or minivan for fieldwork
Bicycle with big basket for staff in-town errands

	Newsletter	ummer 200
	<sup>±</sup> ‡ KBO a‡ (2∢1) 301-0899 or KBO@Klama‡µBird.org	Contac
	Other	
	Supporting Membership \$100	
	S1\$ tnebut2	
	Kednlar \$35	
	: oue:	Сһеск
ь роче:	ams. KbU is a DUI(c)3 nonprotit organization.	

Email:	
City/State:	:qiZ
Address:	_
i/dme:	_

contribution will support KBO's research and education become a member and your tax-deductible

Contribute to the conservation of birds and habitat Join the Klamath Bird Observatory

> Ashland, OR 97520 PO Box 758



PERMIT NO. 31 ASHLAND, OR US POSTAGE PAID NONPROFIT ORG

## **KBO Staff**

John Alexander, MS— Executive Director Ashley Dayer, MS—Education & Outreach Director Bob Frey—Biologist Keith Larson—Biologist Nat Seavy, PhD—Post-doctoral Research Associate Jaime Stephens, MS-Biologist

#### **KBO Interns**

# **Education/Outreach**

Kim Brunskill Amy Busch Yahaira Lopez

# **Field Interns**

Stuart Fety Christine Roy

#### **Banding Interns**

Ian Ausprey Susan Culliney Ana Maria Gonzalez Danny Karp Cara Lovell Chris Samuels **Bill Trione** Thane Tupper Diana Velasco

## **KBO** Board

**Research Director** Dick Ashford, MS—President George Alexander, MBA C. John Ralph, ScD Stewart Janes, PhD Frank Lang, PhD Margaret Widdowson, PhD

## **KBO Associates & Contractors**

Daveka Boodram Jim Field Dave Haupt Jherime Kellerman Frank Lospalluto **Kevin Spencer**