



# The Golden Eagle

Newsletter of the Golden Eagle Audubon Society

March/April, 2015

## Trip Report: Birds of San Blas and Western Mexico

By Shannon Rio

Sixteen bird lovers and two guides met in early January in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, for this first-of-a-kind birding retreat.

We began in the hometown of guide Luis Morales, who is the director of Mexico's first birding observatory, San Pancho Bird Observatory. He was to be joined by Jay Carlisle, research director for the Intermountain Bird Observatory in Boise and 14 birders from Idaho. I knew this was to be a unique experience, not just for learning the birds of Mexico and the culture of this beautiful country but also for the focus on conservation – a deep desire for protection of all we would see.

After meeting in Puerto Vallarta, we drove north to the small community of San Pancho. After enjoying a grand first meal and a comfortable night at our hotel, we ventured out to areas designated by San Pancho Bird Observatory as significant birding sites. And we were not disappointed. That first day we enjoyed watching the bat falcon, crane hawk, elegant and citreoline trogon, squirrel cuckoo, orange-breasted bunting and many other species. Given that we saw more than 260 species in the 10 days, I won't be listing everything we saw.

Our second day took us boating out to the Marietas Islas to watch mating blue footed boobies. On the way to the island, a humpback whale breached just next to the boat. After seeing other seabirds and having lunch on the beach, we enjoyed birding and swimming. Viewing new species brought a constant stream of pleasure for all of us as. My favorites were the pale-billed woodpecker, vermilion flycatcher and ferruginous-pygmy owl.

It was time to head to San Blas, known as one of the top 100 places to bird in the world, and also one of the buggiest. Our two vans headed north, birding along the way. After checking into our beautiful hotel and having lunch and a swim in the pool, the highlight of the day was late afternoon and night birding at La Tovar where boats took us up the mangrove-filled river to the spring site that provides water to the town of San Blas. Memorable birds

included the rufus-necked wood rail, the northern potoo (13 of them), snail kite and boat-billed heron. Crocodiles lounged on the muddy banks. It was magical to be under a star-filled sky watching wood storks silhouetted on palm trees and hearing wild nocturnal sounds. We were accompanied by local guide Jonathan Bargas and Chenchó, our expert boat driver and guide of many years.

After two bird-rich days in San Blas, we headed into the mountains to the ancient town of San Sebastián. At more than 5000 feet, the air was cool and the birds were plentiful. For many the favorite bird of those two days was the Aztec thrush. Still the transvolcanic jay, mountain trogon, red warbler and flame colored

tanager were all close seconds. Again, food and accommodations were superb.

We headed into Puerto Vallarta for an evening of coastal birds and a beach front dinner. The following day, we went to the botanical gardens south of Puerto Vallarta and on the way to our final destination of Rancho Primavera near El Tuito. The red-crowned ant tanager was a favorite of the Garden along with glimpses of the blue mockingbird.

Rancho Primavera was the grand finale of the trip. Upon our arrival, we were

greeted by a rescued orange-fronted parrot and a military macaw. This 200-acre private ranch, run by the mother/daughter team of Bonnie and Pat, is an Eden of green meadows, small ponds, pine forests and winding trails. Feeding stations attract several endemic species, including golden-cheeked woodpecker, San Blas jay, blue mockingbird, yellow-winged cacique and the iconic black-throated magpie-jay. Many other non-endemics also visit, including hummingbirds, russet browed motmots, yellow grosbeaks and various orioles.

The guides were over-the-top great, not only in their dedication to helping us see the birds, but also in conveying information about the culture of Mexico and conservation. They were expert at taking care of each and every person on the journey.

*Shannon Rio is a board member of the Klamath Bird Observatory.*



Yellow winged cacique

Photo by John Beecham

**President’s Message**

By Michele Crist

Greetings GEAS!

I hope everyone was able to participate in the Backyard Bird Count this year – it was fantastic weather for the count.

GEAS has been quite busy over the past couple of months. The fun never stops! We are in the midst of preparing for our annual GEAS banquet, and I hope to see all of you there. Your support and participation are essential to all the work GEAS does. I believe you will enjoy the speaker and find many interesting items at the silent auction to take home with you. I want to take this opportunity to give a big thank you again to the banquet committee for organizing such a great event.

For more GEAS news, Liz Urban has been working hard on the New Roots campaign, and the GEAS membership and website teams have been busy with updates as well. Sean Finn and I are organizing a “Friends” group for the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area to help address the many management challenges and needs this conservation area has and will experience in the future. Please let Sean or me know if you would like to be involved. In addition, we have a number of interesting birding trips, monthly programs, and family bird walks coming up. I hope you all find the time to take advantage of these opportunities.

Once again, a lot is changing at GEAS as well. We are nominating candidates for quite a few positions that will open up on the board. Let us know if you are interested. I will be stepping down as president and will move into the “past president” position on the board since my term limit is up. Sean Finn has graciously offered to run as president in the upcoming election. He is an excellent choice and will be a great leader for GEAS. Also, Bruce Ackermann and Suzanne Woodcock are stepping down from their positions as well. Bruce has been an essential board member over many years. He has been the backbone of GEAS, and we will miss his participation and reliability, especially in running the monthly program meetings and finding interesting speakers. Suzanne also has been on the board for many years – maybe even longer than Bruce. In the three years that I have worked with her, she has overhauled our budgets, made significant improvements in GEAS accounting, and offered great contributions and advice in running GEAS. Leah Dunn and Lew Ulrey are running for vice president and treasurer, respectively.

Thank you for all your support!

Michele, president

**GEAS CALENDAR**

**March-April 2015**

Family Birding Walk	March 8
GEAS Annual Banquet	March 14
Field Trip: Fort Boise WMA	March 21
GEAS Monthly Program	March 24
Field Trip: Sage-grouse Lek	March 28
Field Trip: Avimor Bird Walk	March 28
Family Birding Walk	April 12
Event: Boise Watershed	April 18
Greenbelt Litter Patrol & Birding	April 26
GEAS Monthly Program	April 28
Family Birding Walk	May 3

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Michele Crist, President mrcgoldeneagle@gmail.com	863-1918
Bruce Ackerman, Vice President backerman1@aol.com	342-0896
Sue Norton, Secretary nortonsu@msn.com	378-4248
Suzanne Woodcock, Treasurer swwoodcock@gmail.com	387-0709
Sean Finn, a.gentilis@gmail.com	371-2740
Julie Heath julieheath@boisestate.edu	342-7531
Lew Ulrey lulrey@cableone.net,	
Lindsay Alsup linzybird@gmail.com,	
Maria Minicucci idmini@cableone.net,	
Gerrie Satz gerries@iranger.com.	
Leah Dunn ldboise@gmail.com	
Liz Urban urbanhawk137@gmail.com	629-2146
Jason Sutter owyhees@hotmail.com	
Steve Hanser hanser.steve@gmail.com	
Al Larson (Honorary) larson83703@msn.com	343-0959
Levi Mohler (Honorary, Deceased)	
<b>COMMITTEES</b>	
Banquet: Sue Norton, Susan Hazelton	378-4248
Conservation: Sean Finn	a.gentilis@gmail.com
Education: Liz Urban	urbanhawk137@gmail.com 629-2146
Field Trips: Pam Conley	869-0337
Membership: Bruce Ackerman Susan Werner	342-0896 342-0896
Program: Bruce Ackerman	342-0896
Publicity: Leah Dunn	ldboise@gmail.com
Newsletter: Niels S. Nokkentved	sparre47@gmail.com 377-3360
Volunteer Coordinator Gerrie Satz.	gerries@iranger.com
Website: Rod Smith	rods325@gmail.com 859-3298
Historian: Jennifer Robbins-Smith	threehappycampers@hotmail.com 859-3298
Webmaster Harold Ward	geas@seeboise.com 338-7015

# Birds Inspire Thirst for Knowledge and Continue to Thrill

By Crista Worthy

In the 1960s, the southern California suburban house where I grew up was surrounded by huge old trees. As a kid, I watched and listened to all the birds outside, wanted to know more and borrowed books from the library to learn their names and habits.

Along with scrub jays, mockingbirds, winter juncos, and dozens of others, our yard hosted the occasional western tanager and even, once, a phainopepla.

As a university student in La Jolla, just north of San Diego, I noticed the area harbored an exceptional number of raptors. A female kestrel once even landed on my head (must have been an escaped bird) and my roommate snapped a photo. Before we moved to Ada County three years ago, we lived in the densely populated area around UCLA. Those who say the city has few birds are wrong. You just have to listen.

Many birds vocalize of course, but parrots do so loudly and al-



Crista Cardiff with kestrel.

Photo courtesy of Crista Worthy

most continuously, to maintain contact with each other. Over the years I noticed a significant increase in the number of feral parrots. There were many flocks of mixed Amazons, large green birds with short tails and a smattering of red, blue, or yellow, depending on exact species. One neighborhood hosts a huge flock of canary-winged parakeets, *Brotogeris versicoloris*, about 8 inches long with medium-long tails. For a week over this past Christmas holiday, we flew to Los Angeles to visit family. On a walk I heard a pair of them in a new area, and then saw them fly into a palm tree. They are expanding their territories.

Back home in Hidden Springs on January 6, our back yard was covered in snow. The dreaded winter inversion had settled in, keeping things cold and foggy, with only the quail, house finches and lesser goldfinches outside. Or so I thought, until I got in my car and drove down the street, lined with maples

**Continued on Page 5**

## Volunteer News

Let us start by thanking RL Rowland for his ever famous Gull 101 field trip. Kathleen Cameron and Poo Wright-Pulliam told us in January about the birding trip they led to Costa Rica in March 2014, through Kathleen's tour company "Majestic Feathers." Kathleen told us about the great birds they saw and photographed. Poo demonstrated to us about teaching the trip participants to draw the birds they saw, to cement the field marks in their minds. It was a great presentation.

Rob Miller told us in February about the exchange trip that he and Karyn took to Spain to band raptors with the bird observatory there. Raptors are highly concentrated as they migrate south to cross the Mediterranean at the Straits of Gibraltar from Europe to Africa.

Steve Hanser, Liz Urban and Leah Dunn have done a great job of creating and improving our new member database. It is a lot more functional. Many members have been able to go online and renew their memberships, edit their contact

information, make donations, and purchase their banquet tickets.

People whose membership has expired have been receiving automatic reminder e-mails for the first time. Thanks everyone who has renewed their membership lately. Members also get automatic confirmation e-mails when they renew, donate, or purchase banquet tickets.

Thanks to everyone who has donated to GEAS' Fall Fundraiser. It has been very successful. We have received about \$6000 in donations so far. Susan Werner has done a great job of compiling the donations from the fundraiser, sending emails and thank-you letters with tax information, and making changes in people's addresses in the new member database.

Our volunteer needs for March include help for the annual banquet. Call Sue Norton at 378-4248 to volunteer. Register by mail or online; see form on Page 7.

This is the last year that they are going to co-chair the banquet committee, so they are looking for volunteers to take a leadership position to put on the 2016

banquet.

Thanks to the following volunteers for preparing the last newsletter for mailing: Lew Ulrey, Connie Ulrey, Teresa Sabala and Suzanne Woodcock.

Thank you Suzanne Woodcock for performing the duties as secretary at the January board meeting. Nicely done.

Sean Finn, Liz Urban and Leah Dunn get a huge vote of thanks for putting together a nominating committee to replace leaving board members in May.

We have a new Southwest Idaho Bird Checklist thanks to the labors of Lindsay Alsop and RL Rowland.

Free up your calendar for the Boise Watershed at Hidden Lakes Reserve area at 5301 N. Maple Grove Road (rain or shine) from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, April 18. We will be hosting a GEAS station with scope and binoculars for children and parents to view more than 50 species of birdlife. Contact: Gerrie 473-2650 if you can help with this.

Gerrie Satz, Volunteer Coordinator

## GEAS EVENTS for March and April

**Program information is subject to change.** Please check the website <http://www.goldeneagleaudubon.org> and go to the Calendar and Field Trips section for the latest information or contact Pam Conley at 869-0337 or [pam\\_conley@q.com](mailto:pam_conley@q.com)

**Field Trip Etiquette:** We set up car pools to take as few cars as possible, while making sure everyone has a window. Please give the driver of your ride gas money and arrive 10 minutes early.

### WMC (Wednesday Morning Club) – March/April

Time: 8 a.m.

Location: Janjou Patisserie (best croissants in Boise, the old Moxie Java in the strip mall northwest of State and 17th).  
Contact: Kathy Barker McCoy, h- 384-1205 c- 921-1340 or Alan Crockett, 343-2969, [abcrock.fu73573@msn.com](mailto:abcrock.fu73573@msn.com)  
Join me this spring to investigate Boise's backyard. We'll be paying attention to the flowers and other critters as well as the birds. Starting in March we'll be back to an 8 a.m. meeting time. If you have any suggestions for places that I haven't thought of, please call me and we'll try to put them on the list. March 4 - Hulls Gulch; March 11 - Hyatt Wetland; March 18 - Greenbelt, park at Veterans Park; March 25 - Foote Park and Lydle Gulch, near Lucky Peak Dam; April 1 - Hulls Gulch; April 8 - Five Mile Trail in Rocky Canyon; April 15 - Greenbelt, park in Barber Park; April 22 - Blacks Creek or Indian Creek Reservoir or Grimes Creek; April 29 - Corral Trail off Bogus Basin Road. I reserve the right to change the destination if weather or special sightings so indicate.

### Sunday, March 8

Family Birding Walk: Kathryn Albertson Park - especially for children or the child in you.

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Kathryn Albertson Park parking lot, 1001 N. Americana Blvd., Boise

Contact: Pam Conley 869-0337 [pam\\_conley@q.com](mailto:pam_conley@q.com)  
We will walk the paved loop around the park looking for geese, ducks, and herons on the water, as well as songbirds in the brush. Bring the whole family, especially the young ones. We go over the basics of using binoculars. We have binoculars and field guides you can borrow. Sign up the kids in our Frequent Flyer Club where they earn rewards for birding. We will finish at 3 p.m.

### Saturday, March 14

GEAS Annual Banquet & Silent Auction  
Red Lion Downtowner  
See details in this newsletter.

### Saturday, March 21

Field Trip: Fort Boise Wildlife Management Area

Time: 7:45 a.m.

Location: Meet at Park & Ride at NE corner of Eagle & Overland  
Trip Leader: RL Rowland (208) 336-9808 or [rlrowland@centurylink.net](mailto:rlrowland@centurylink.net)

Contact: Pam Conley 869-0337 [pam\\_conley@q.com](mailto:pam_conley@q.com)  
Joint Field Trip with SW ID Birders Assn. (SIBA). Should see large numbers of migrating snow, Ross's and greater white-fronted geese and more. We will go on to look for wild turkeys at Martin's Landing and sandhill cranes at Roswell Marsh so could be a long day for those who stay. Dress for the weather. Bring water, snacks, and a lunch. Don't forget your cameras.

### Tuesday, March 24

GEAS Monthly Program: Gorongosa National Park, Mozambique, Heidi Ware

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: M.K. Nature Center, 600 S Walnut., Boise  
Contact: Pam Conley 869-0337 [pam\\_conley@Q.com](mailto:pam_conley@Q.com)  
Heidi Ware will show photos about the birds and wildlife spotted during her recent 10-day trip to Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique. She will also share the inspiring story of Gorongosa and the work being done there to recover this natural treasure after decades of civil war that ravaged the nation of Mozambique. Heidi will also talk about the collaboration between Zoo Boise and Gorongosa Park, involving restoration efforts from community health care, women's rights and job creation to poaching prevention, wildlife research and species reintroduction. Heidi is the education and outreach director for the Intermountain Bird Observatory at Boise State University. She has a masters degree in biology from BSU. Heidi's work with IBO focuses on integrating hands-on science for K-12 and university level students with various Intermountain Bird Observatory research projects.

### Saturday, March 28

Field Trip: Washington County Birding & Sage-grouse Lek

Time: 4:45 a.m.

Location: Meet at the Park & Ride at Rackham Road, NE Corner of Eagle and Overland roads.

Contact: Pam Conley 869-0337 [pam\\_conley@q.com](mailto:pam_conley@q.com)

Trip Leader: Dave Hazelton, 362-1119

Beware, sage-grouse numbers have been declining, and there is no longer any guarantee that we will see them on this trip. Nevertheless, we need to meet before 5 a.m. so that we can carpool and be on the road promptly at 5 a.m.. We'll drive in the dark to arrive around first light at the sage-grouse lek near Midvale. After viewing these great boomers, we'll travel to C. Ben Ross Reservoir via remote unpaved roads, arriving around noon. Our route is flexible, but the plan is to check out other areas in the vicinity. In the past, we have walked along the Weiser River trail in Goodrich in the early afternoon. Bring lunch, water and protection from the elements. This is an all day trip.

### Saturday, March 28

Field Trip: Avimor Bird Walk

Time: 8 a.m. - noon

Location: Meet at Avimor Community Center on Avimor Dr. off Hwy 55, 2.5 miles past Shadow Valley Golf Course

Contact: Robert Mortensen [birdingisfun@gmail.com](mailto:birdingisfun@gmail.com).

Future Avimor Bird Walks: April 18, May 30, June 20, July 18, August 22.

### Sunday, April 12

Family Birding Walk: Hyatt Hidden Lakes Reserve - especially for children or the child in you.

Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Hyatt Hidden Lakes Reserve, 5301 N. Maple Grove Road, Boise, lower parking lot.

Contact: Pam Conley 869-0337 [pam\\_conley@Q.com](mailto:pam_conley@Q.com)

This Boise city park is managed especially for wildlife. The area has a number of ponds and upland habitat which support a diverse number of birds and other wildlife. Bring the whole

## GEAS Events continued

family, especially the young ones. We have binoculars and field guides you can borrow. Sign up the kids in our Frequent Flier Club where they earn rewards for birding. We finish at 11 a.m.

### Saturday, April 18

Boise Watershed. Presents Wetlands Discovery at Hyatt Hidden Lakes Reserve

Time: 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Location: Hyatt Hidden Lakes Reserve, 5301 N. Maple Grove Rd., Boise, lower parking lot.

Contact: Pam Conley 869-0337 [pam\\_conley@q.com](mailto:pam_conley@q.com)

Discover your urban wetlands with outdoor activities at Hyatt Hidden Lakes Reserve. Visit the GEAS booth to learn about the more than 50 species of birds found in the wetlands. Take a look through the spotting scope to see coots, herons, red-wing blackbirds and more. Meet artist Mark Baltes and admire the art installation 'HaBATat' for bats! Learn about bats and explore the contents of the "Bat Trunk." Interact with wetland models, take a hike and learn about wetlands and the animals that love them.

### Sunday, April 26

Boise River Greenbelt Litter Patrol & Bird Watching

Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Meet in the Greenbelt parking lot behind the Tavern at Bown Crossing (near east end of Park Center Blvd.)

Contact: Pam Conley 869-0337 [pam\\_conley@q.com](mailto:pam_conley@q.com)

We will walk downriver from the bridge at Bown Crossing, birding as we go, and pick up litter on our way back. We usually finish around noon. Bring gloves, water and binocs. No public restrooms available.

### Tuesday, April 28

GEAS Monthly Program: Sheri Robison will talk about her birding trip to Madagascar in 2013.

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: M.K. Nature Center, 600 S Walnut., Boise

Contact: Pam Conley 869-0337 [pam\\_conley@Q.com](mailto:pam_conley@Q.com)

Sheri Robison will talk about her 2013 Birding trip to the island of Madagascar, Africa. Of the 300 species of birds, 119 are endemic. In fact, Madagascar has 5 endemic bird families and 37 endemic genera. She will also talk about the famous lemurs, which live nowhere else, and the people of Madagascar.

### Sunday, May 3

Family Birding Walk: Hulls Gulch - especially for children or the child in you

Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Meet at the Jim Hall Foothills Learning Center, 3188 Sunset Peak Rd. Boise

Contact: Pam Conley 869-0337 [pam\\_conley@q.com](mailto:pam_conley@q.com)

A highlight of this walk will be seeing the nesting great-horned owls that live in Hulls Gulch. We hope to be there in time to see their fuzzy fledgling babies. We will also look for the beautiful warblers and lazuli buntings that are returning to Boise for the spring and learn about migration. Where do birds go in the winter? What birds are here one time of the year and gone another? Why do birds migrate? What would it be like if you had to migrate like a bird? Bring the whole family, especially the young ones. We have binoculars and field guides you can borrow. Sign up the kids in our Frequent Flier Club where they earn rewards for birding. We will finish at 11 a.m.

## Continued from Page 3

and decorative fruit trees. Dozens of robins perched on and flitted between the bare branches of each tree. There must have been thousands of robins in the neighborhood, yet the day before there had not been even one. Nor had I seen any out back.

Hidden Springs is a lone development of about 800 homes on the north side of the Boise Foothills. We are surrounded by sagebrush. But on the streets, it's a typical suburban neighborhood of lawns, shrubs and trees. The robins have no interest in sagebrush; that's the home of the quail, pheasants, doves and hawks. I couldn't tell if the robins were picking at small berries in the trees, or just perching and flying around. The following day there were even more.

By January 8 most of the snow in our backyard had melted or sublimated, leaving the lawn half-exposed. I looked out to see perhaps 50 robins hopping around, accompanied by as many starlings. They were all stalking worms in the half-frozen ground, and it seemed many of them had success. These birds will eventually disperse; come early spring, our yard is ruled by only one pair of robins that nest somewhere nearby.

We have another freeloader—a tiny mouse that lives under a dense, shrubby dwarf blue spruce beside the bird feeders. I see it dart out from under the bush, grab spilled seeds and dart back. The mouse has caught the attention of a local juvenile sharp-shinned hawk. On several occasions, the hawk has landed beside the bush and run under the branches in pursuit. So far the mouse has been quicker than the hawk.

It seems early, but on January 31, after two consecutive warm and sunny days, the red-winged blackbirds came back. In our marsh, and in any tiny ditch in Garden City with a few cattails, you can hear the males all day long, calling out that they are ready for spring. Indeed, other than a mid-November cold snap, it's been an unusually warm winter. "Lows" in the first week of February hover around 60 degrees. Flocks of American goldfinches arrived, five weeks early.

I may have to mow my still-green lawn before Valentine's Day. Perhaps another small signal of climate change, which the National Audubon Society recently said will be its No. 1 priority in years to come.

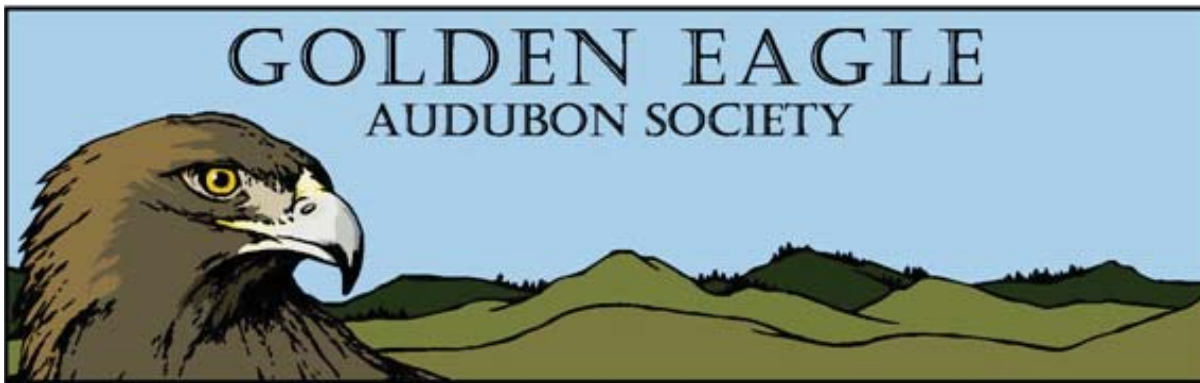
During warm spells this winter, bees from a nearby hive have come out of dormancy to search for food. Finding no flowers, they have inundated the feeders stocked with sunflower chips. They crawl in and eat the seed dust off the hulled chips.

What happened to winter?



Brown pelican

Photo by N.S. Nokkentved



## **Would You Be Interested in Being Part Of an Active Conservation Non-profit Group? Please Consider Volunteering with The Golden Eagle Audubon Society!**

GEAS is looking for people interested in running for one of six spots that will be available on the Board of Directors or participating on our standing committees. Board of directors elections conclude at the May monthly meeting and the three-year positions begin in June. Current standing committees are conservation, education, and membership. Interested individuals should please contact the board by March 20; an application must be submitted by April 3 to be included on this year's ballot in the GEAS newsletter.

We welcome all interested folks, but the board would greatly benefit from people with expertise or experience in legal policy, business, volunteer and field trip coordination, membership recruitment, banquet coordination, website/communications and fundraising. Time and a passion for GEAS's mission are a must.

### **What We Do:**

GEAS is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization that works to protect the habitats important to birds and to provide experiences for enjoying them. Some examples of what we do:

- **Birding Trips and Family Bird Walks:** We provide binoculars, bird books, and fun for children and their families during walks through local parks and other birding areas.
- **Blacks Creek Bird Reserve:** We led a community-based partnership to protect a 600-acre Important Bird Area just south of Boise. We are now following that critical step by restoring native vegetation to improve bird habitat.
- **Bluebird Trails:** We support Al Larson's Bluebird Trails. We have provided financial and volunteer assistance for many years and are committed to continuing a citizen monitoring project into the future.
- **Education:** We provide birding classes, funding for Bird By Bird classrooms, and are involved in community events such as Kokanee Days, International Migratory Bird Day, and the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge's BioBlitz.

### **Board of Directors Position Description:**

Each member of the board of directors is elected to serve three year terms and is responsible for the direction of all GEAS activities. We meet monthly to discuss business and also lead and participate on committees to advance our goals. Beyond the standing committees, ad hoc panels manage the annual banquet, grant and award distribution, fundraising, nominations and policy issues. Any member may participate in any committee or panel.

### **Committee Members:**

We invite interested individuals to join any of the standing committees. Ideally committees meet every other month, but many works and communications occur through email. Committees brainstorm and achieve many of GEAS's important works; they report activities and provide recommendations to the board of directors. Board members or community members that are not on the board of directors are all encouraged to participate.

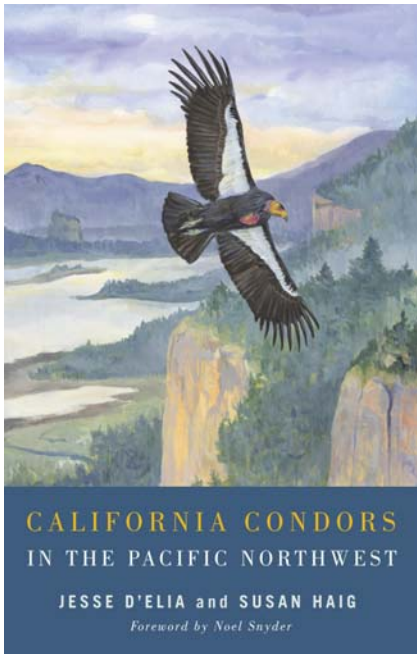
For more information, please contact Liz Urban at [urbanhawk137@gmail.com](mailto:urbanhawk137@gmail.com) or send a letter of interest to: GEAS PO Box 8261, Boise, ID 83707. The current nominations committee members are Liz Urban, Leah Dunn and Sean Finn.

# Golden Eagle Audubon Society Annual Banquet and Auction

Saturday, March 14, 2015

Red Lion Downtowner, 1800 Fairview Ave.

\$40 Per Person



Susan Haig, PhD, is a supervisory wildlife ecologist at the USGS Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center in Corvallis, Ore. She is also a professor of wildlife ecology at Oregon State University, a research associate of the Smithsonian Institution, and president of the American Ornithologists' Union. She has spent more than 30 years working on species facing extinction. Her research explores the genetic and demographic factors needed to plan recovery actions for small populations. Haig's efforts include work on piping plovers, spotted owls, red-cockaded woodpeckers and California condors.

With Jesse D'Elia, a fish and wildlife biologist from Portland, Ore., Haig has written "California Condors in the Pacific Northwest." The book investigates the paleontological and observational records as well as the cultural relationships between Native American tribes and condors and provides the most complete assessment to date of the condor's existence in the Pacific Northwest. They evaluate the probable causes of regional extinction and the chance that condors once bred in the region. They assess factors to be considered in determining whether condors could once again thrive in Northwest skies.

## GEAS BANQUET REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS — DUE BY MARCH 9, 2015.

Please complete one of the payment forms below. Send payment form along with list of guests and meal choices to: GEAS, 1963 Teal Lane, Boise, ID 83706. Checks should be made out to GEAS. Questions? Call Sue Norton 378-4248.

### To Pay By Check:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ( Number of guests \_\_\_\_\_ guests @ \$40 per guest)

### To Pay By Credit Card:

Please charge my credit card (circle one) : VISA    MasterCard    Discover    American Express  
 Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ( Number of guests \_\_\_\_\_ guests @ \$40 per guest)

Choose from one of the following entrees: Beef Tenderloin, Char-Grilled Northwest Salmon, or Vegetarian.

Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Meal Choice: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Meal Choice: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Meal Choice: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Meal Choice: \_\_\_\_\_

***I am not able to attend, but I would like to make a donation to GEAS: \$ \_\_\_\_\_***

***I have an  auction item or a  dessert to donate. Please contact me at:***

***In order to preserve the sanity of the auction committee, all donations (except desserts) should be received by March 2.***



Western Mexico birding group.

Photo by John Beecham

The Golden Eagle Audubon Society publishes *The Golden Eagle* six times a year.

- Please help us save paper and mailing costs; if you would like to receive your newsletter online, send your name and zip code in an e-mail to [membership@goldeneagleaudubon.org](mailto:membership@goldeneagleaudubon.org). GEAS does not share your email address.
- For membership/subscription information, renewals, or change of address, e-mail [membership@goldeneagleaudubon.org](mailto:membership@goldeneagleaudubon.org).
- For newsletter submissions, send an e-mail to Niels S. Nokkentved at [sparre47@gmail.com](mailto:sparre47@gmail.com). The deadline for newsletter submissions is the second Sunday of the month.

### We invite you to join the Golden Eagle Audubon Chapter

Membership in the local chapter includes a one-year subscription to *The Golden Eagle*, and all my dues remain with the local chapter and support local activities.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ (allows for website login)  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- Student membership \$15
- Individual membership \$20
- Family membership \$35
- Golden Eagle Lifetime membership \$500

I would like to donate an additional \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to Golden Eagle Audubon Society. Mail to: Golden Eagle Audubon Society, PO Box 8261, Boise, ID 83707, **or pay by credit card on our website [www.goldeneagleaudubon.org](http://www.goldeneagleaudubon.org) (click support GEAS).**

Please contact us for information on membership scholarships.

To join the National Audubon Society visit <http://www.audubon.org/> and use chapter code G00 for Golden Eagle Audubon Society, or write to: National Audubon Society, PO Box 422250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250.

The Golden Eagle Audubon Society is southwest Idaho's chapter of the National Audubon Society.  
 GEAS promotes environmental awareness through field trips, local programs and volunteer work.

Post Office Box 8261, Boise, Idaho 83707  
[www.goldeneagleaudubon.org](http://www.goldeneagleaudubon.org)

Chapter Code: C5ZG000Z