

## *2008 Circular of Information—PDX08*

### **One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union Seventy-eighth Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Society Twenty-eighth Meeting of the Society of Canadian Ornithologists/La Société des Ornithologistes du Canada**

4-8 August 2008 at the Hilton Portland and Executive Tower

This joint meeting - “**PDX08**” - will be held in Portland, Oregon, from Tuesday through Friday, 5-8 August 2008, with an opening reception on Monday, 4 August 2008. All information about the meeting can be found at the PDX08 website: <http://www.pdxbirds08.org>.

All conference activities, including symposia, workshops, paper and poster sessions, council and business meetings, student events, social events, and the opening reception and closing banquet, will take place at the Hilton Portland. A special evening at the Oregon Zoo will be an optional activity on Thursday, 7 August 2008.

Portland, Oregon is very accessible with excellent airline rates and connections, plus inexpensive and/or free ground transportation (no car rental needed!).

Members are encouraged to register early for the meeting and to make their hotel reservations via the online, secure registration site at: <http://www.pdxbirds08.org>. A roommate finder system can also be found on the PDX08 website. Roommate information should be included on your conference registration. Early registration will be accepted until 15 April 2008; regular registration accepted up to 15 June 2008; and late registration and/or on-site registration accepted after 15 June 2008.

Registrations made online (or postmarked) on or before 15 April 2008, will be \$300 regular, \$150 students, and \$110 spouse/guest. From 16 April until 15 June 2008, the registration fee will be \$350 regular, \$200 students, and \$150 spouse/guest. Registrations after 15 June 2008 will be \$400 regular, \$250 students, and \$200 spouse/guest. Early registration is highly recommended not only for the financial benefits and to assist in conference planning, but because space is limited for some events.

**Registration desk** -- will be open at the Hilton Portland, 921 Southwest 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Portland, Oregon from 16:00-19:00 Monday, 4 August; 14:00 to 19:00 Tuesday, 5 August; 07:30 to 20:00 Wednesday, 6 August, and on Thursday, 7 August; and 07:30 to 17:30 Friday, 8 August.

**Host City** – Portland is a vibrant city with many activities and restaurants for all ages and tastes, and easy public transportation via streetcars and MAX Light Rail Train (free within downtown). Interwoven through the city are extensive parks and gardens, providing great birding opportunities with easy access. The largest, Forest Park, is the nation’s largest urban wilderness. It winds through much of the west part of the city and includes the Japanese Gardens, Botanical Gardens, Oregon Zoo, Portland Audubon Nature Center and Rehabilitation facility, and a Kids

Museum. Closer to the Hilton meeting site, a stroll through the Portland Classical Chinese Garden or McCall Waterfront Park provides a glimpse into the heart of the city and good birds!

Portland has led the nation in urban environmental responsibility. Portlanders recycle 52% of their waste, one of the highest in the country. More than 6,000 residents commute to work by bicycle. The city uses solar-powered parking meters and synchronized traffic signals that result in an annual savings of 1.1 million gallons of gas. Portland has the most LEED-certified buildings per capita in the nation. Even the breweries recycle spent grains into animal feed and local restaurants participate in “Fork It Over,” providing surplus food to charities.

Portland is surrounded by natural beauty and accessible to Mount Hood, Mount St. Helens, the Oregon Coast, the Columbia River Gorge, and the Willamette Valley. There are few places in North America where a 1-2 hour drive in any direction results in a completely different biome; old-growth forest, coastal, alpine, high desert, and grassland communities are all accessible during day trips from Portland.

### **How Green is Our Meeting?**

The conference organizers have carefully considered the effects of meeting on our environment and selected the Hilton Portland and Executive Tower because it is a certified green property by Green Seal Lodging Properties ([www.greenseal.org](http://www.greenseal.org)). We will also work on keeping the meeting green with the following:

- Publishing the meeting circular online
- Reducing the use of styrofoam, paper plates, and other disposable items
- All meeting venues are accessible by foot from anywhere in downtown Portland
- Use of MAX rail to/from the airport, Oregon Zoo, and other popular locations in Portland. (<http://www.trimet.org/max/index.htm>)
- Nearly all events associated with the meeting, including Oregon Zoo Night, will be accessible via the MAX, which is free throughout the downtown area.
- Posting of the abstracts online rather than printed.

### **BUSINESS SESSIONS**

Sunday, 3 August

18:00 - 21:30 First Meeting of AOU Council

Monday, 4 August

08:00 - 15:30 Second Meeting of AOU Council

08:00 - 15:30 COS Council Meeting

09:00 - 15:30 SCO Council Meeting

15:45 - 17:00 Meeting of AOU Fellows

Tuesday, 5 August

16:30 – 17:30 SCO Business Meeting - All members welcome!

16:30 - 17:30 COS Business Meeting - All members welcome!

Wednesday, 6 August

16:30 - 17:30 AOU Business Meeting - All members welcome!

12:00 - 14:00 AOU Publications Committee

12:00 - 14:00 COS Publications Committee

Friday, 8 August

12:00 - 14:00 OSNA Oversight Committee working lunch

**Other Business** – Information on all meeting rooms will be available at registration and on the PDX08 website. Committees or groups desiring to meet should contact Helen Schneider Lemay ([Helens@sgmeet.com](mailto:Helens@sgmeet.com)) prior to the meeting or at the registration desk at the meeting for time and space availability. Information on business meetings not listed here will be updated on the PDX08 website.

## SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

Meeting attendees will receive a paper copy of the program upon arrival at the Hilton. In addition, all attendees will be sent daily emails during the meeting with updated announcements for the day, including paper/poster changes/cancellations. The meeting website will also post these announcements on a daily basis during the meeting.

**Plenary Sessions** – are scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings at 08:30 a.m. at the Hilton Portland. This year's speakers include: Robert B. Payne, Terry Root, B. Rosemary Grant, and Peter Arcese.

**Lecture and Poster Sessions** – Concurrent paper sessions will be held at the Hilton Portland with assignments to be made at a later date and found on the PDX08 website: [www.pdxbirds08.org](http://www.pdxbirds08.org). Posters sessions will be held 19:00 - 22:00 on Tuesday, 5 August and on Wednesday, 6 August at the Hilton Portland.

**Symposia**--topics and participants this year include:

- A beginner's guide to collecting and preparing museum specimens. AOU Committee on Bird Collections
- Trends in avian incubation. Suzanne H. Austin and Christopher R. Olson
- New answers from old specimens. Marina Anciães, Carla Cicero, A. Townsend Peterson
- Occupancy estimation and modeling in ecology and conservation biology. Steven R. Beissinger and James D. Nichols
- Social information use by birds in habitat selection. Matthew Betts and Joseph Nocera
- The influence of noise on birds and bird studies. Jessica Blickley, Clinton Francis, and Catherine Ortega

- Avian dispersal: Case studies in contrasting behaviors, environments and methodological approaches. Jeff Brawn and Jeff Walters
- Applications of stress endocrinology to conservation. Shalin Busch and Lisa Hayward
- Free-ranging cats and bird conservation. Nico Dauphiné
- Biogeography, systematics, and evolution of Pacific Island birds. Robert C. Fleischer and John P. Dumbacher
- Using breeding bird atlases to enhance bird conservation. Charles M. Francis and Andrew R. Couturier
- Avian habitat restoration: What is success and how do we measure it? Tom Gardali and Nathaniel Seavy
- The physiological underpinnings of carry-over effects. Rebecca L. Holberton and Peter P. Marra
- Ecology and conservation of North American nightjars. Pamela Hunt and David King
- Conservation of endemic island birds of Oceania. Dylan Kesler
- Using trace element and stable isotope analyses to study avian movement and habitat use. Matthew Johnson
- Body condition of birds: the search for the Holy Grail. Scott R. McWilliams and Christopher G. Guglielmo
- Individual adaptation, population differentiation, and conservation of adaptive variation in Song Sparrows. Christin L. Pruett and Peter Arcese
- Biogeography of birds in the southeastern Himalayas – center of endemism or many species in marginal habitats? Swen C. Renner and John H. Rappole
- Advances in the study of avian demography. Brett K. Sandercock
- The impact of wind energy development on birds. Jill Shaffer and Laura Nagy
- Avian CSI: Ornithology, forensics, and conservation law enforcement. Pepper W. Trail
- Contemporary issues in Osprey ecology and conservation. Brian E. Washburn, Alan F. Poole, Richard O. Bierregaard, Jr., Mark Martell, and Brian S. Dorr

**Workshops:** Two pre-meeting workshops will be held on Monday, 4 August.

- North American Ornithological Atlas Committee (NORAC). Charles M. Francis and Andrew Couturier
- Bandit – Training workshop on the new bird banding data software. Danny Bystrak and Monica Tomosy

**Audio-Visual Materials** – All lecture halls will be equipped with PowerPoint on PC computers; bring files on CD, a USB thumb drive, or a flash drive. Use caution if including non-standard sound or video files in PowerPoint presentations as these may not work. If you are using a MAC to create your PowerPoint, you will need to convert to a PC format. Regardless of operating system, presenters should bring their PowerPoint files in “PowerPoint Package” file format. Specific instructions for loading your presentation in advance of your session will be sent by e-mail and will also be available on the meeting website. Slide projectors and other AV equipment will NOT be available unless requested in advance when submitting an abstract.

A preview room will be available, as will a location to preload your presentation. Full details on procedures are available at <http://www.pdxbirds08.org>

Internet access will not be available in the lecture rooms but will be available in the Hilton lobby and guest rooms as well as in the numerous nearby coffee shops.

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

Members of all three societies and other ornithologists are invited to contribute to the scientific session. To apply for a place on the program, follow instructions found on the PDX08 website: **DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS BY THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COMMITTEE IS 15 APRIL 2008.** This is also the early registration deadline for discounted registration rates.

Proposals for oral presentations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until the schedule is full. The Scientific Program Committee will select and organize papers in appropriate sessions based on scientific content of the abstract. Abstracts should summarize findings, not methods. Indicate preference for either lecture or poster presentation. Oral presentations will be limited to 15 minutes including questions and technical difficulties. Posters should not exceed 122 cm wide by 122 cm height. Please note: Abstracts will not be accepted by fax or e-mail. (Sue: If abstracts are only accepted via mail, is the 15 April deadline for postmark or receipt?) If all paper sessions are filled, it may be necessary to accept for poster presentation some abstracts submitted for oral presentation.

## **Exhibits and Additional Sponsorship Opportunities**

An exhibit area will be set up with easy access for all participants at the meeting. Commercial and non-profit exhibitors are encouraged to participate. The costs for exhibit booths are as follows:

Commercial (for-profit)	\$1,000
Non-profit	\$750

Opportunities are available for sponsorship of various breaks, receptions, and other functions throughout the meeting; please contact the Exhibits/Sponsorship Coordinator at the conference management office at 254.776.3550 or [Helens@sgmeet.com](mailto:Helens@sgmeet.com) if you would like more information.

PDX08 will offer other opportunities for exhibitors and other vendors. We are seeking donations for prizes for the student quiz bowl, auction items for student travel award funding, and student presentation award prizes

### **STUDENT AWARDS: deadline is 15 April 2008**

Numerous travel awards and presentation awards are available; see below for eligibility and application procedures. In addition to award application materials described below, students must also submit standard abstract materials to the Program Coordinator to receive a place on the program. Submit only ONE application; indicate on the cover sheet (see application instructions below) whether you are applying for a travel award, presentation award, or both).

#### ***Application Procedures***

Application Deadline is **April 15**; late applications will not be accepted. To apply for either type of award, submit the following items via email (as a single pdf attachment) to Mike Webster ([mwebster@wsu.edu](mailto:mwebster@wsu.edu)):

- Cover sheet available on the meeting website < <http://www.pdxbirds08.org/>> under Student Information.
- 1-page curriculum vitae, including information on membership in the AOU, COS, and/or SCO.
- An expanded abstract (double-spaced with 12-point font, 3-page maximum including any references, tables, and figures). The expanded abstract should state objectives, methods, major results, and scientific significance.
- Applicants should have their academic advisor send a brief email (1 - 3 sentences) stating that the applicant is a student in good academic standing (longer letters of support are not required).
- Questions may be directed to Mike Webster ([mwebster@wsu.edu](mailto:mwebster@wsu.edu)), Mark Stanback ([mastanback@davidson.edu](mailto:mastanback@davidson.edu)), or Barbara Kus ([barbara\\_kus@usgs.gov](mailto:barbara_kus@usgs.gov)).

#### ***Travel Awards***

##### Eligibility:

- Full-time undergraduate and graduate students and postdocs are eligible.
- Students graduating the semester/quarter prior to the meeting are eligible.
- Applicants must be either sole or lead authors of papers accepted by the Scientific Program Committee; awardees must actually present the poster or oral paper.
- Applicants for travel awards must be members of the AOU or COS. Students who are not

members are encouraged to join to become eligible for student awards. Check the AOU website at <<http://www.aou.org/student/membershipaward.php3>> and the COS website at <[http://www.cooper.org/COS/COS\\_members.html#students](http://www.cooper.org/COS/COS_members.html#students)> for information about student memberships. Both societies offer reduced-rate memberships for students and some no-cost memberships may be available.

- Student members of either AOU or COS will be eligible for all travel awards.

Restrictions:

- Travel award recipients are required to book accommodations at the meeting hotel (students can share rooms, and by so doing reduce accommodation costs below that of other hotels in the area).
- Marcia Brady Tucker Travel Awards – limited to two per lifetime.

Award criteria:

- Applications will be judged based on quality of research/abstract and also standing of student (e.g., whether nearing graduation or not).
- The award is issued only after the Scientific Program Committee has accepted the paper (see Call for Papers, above). Students may receive both a research award and a travel award in the same year.

Amounts available:

- We cannot predict the size of the awards at this time. The size of each award will depend on the number of applications funded.
- Awards may be made for some or all of the travel expenses. Typically, the awards cover only part of the travel expenses.
- Student registration fees for the meeting are not eligible.

### ***Student Presentation Awards***

Eligibility:

- Full-time undergraduate and graduate students are eligible.
- Students graduating the semester/quarter prior to the meeting are eligible. Postdocs are eligible only if the degree was awarded in the semester/quarter prior to the meeting.
- Undergraduates are encouraged to participate.
- Both oral presentations and poster presentations are eligible for these awards
- The applicant must be the sole or lead author and must also present the poster or oral paper.
- Applicants for student presentation awards must be members of the AOU, COS, or SCO. Students who are not currently members are encouraged to join to become eligible for student awards. Check the AOU website at <<http://www.aou.org/student/membershipaward.php3>> and the COS website at <[http://www.cooper.org/COS/COS\\_members.html#students](http://www.cooper.org/COS/COS_members.html#students)> for information about student memberships. Both societies offer reduced-rate memberships for students and some no-cost memberships may be available.

Restrictions:

- Students presenting in symposia are ineligible.
- *Presentation Awards* have a limit of one per lifetime.

Award criteria:

- Awards will be made based on quality of research and presentation, and preference will be given to students presenting a substantial body of work rather than early progress reports.
- Students are encouraged to consult the tips for effective presentations at: <http://www.pdxbirds08.org/>
- The research focus for most awards is open; however, the Robert B. Berry Student Award is specified for the most outstanding presentation on research pertaining to avian conservation.
- Applicants should *not* specify a particular award; all eligible submissions will be considered for the appropriate awards.

**SPECIAL EVENTS—all events will be held at the Portland Hilton unless otherwise noted.**

Monday, 4 August

- 17:30 - 20:00 No-host reception and dinner for AOU/SCO/COS Council, Fellows, and their invited guests.
- 19:00 - 22:00 Opening Reception & Avian Art Exhibit

Tuesday, 5 August

- 12:00 - 13:30 Student lunch with famous ornithologists
- 17:15 - 18:30 AOU Donors Reception
- 19:00 - 22:00 Poster Reception/Avian Art Exhibit/Avian Poetry Night

Wednesday, 6 August

- 12:00 - 13:00 Day of the Condor Celebration
- 18:30 - 19:30 Student Reception with AOU, COS, and SCO officers and editors
- 19:00 - 22:00 Poster Reception/Avian Art Exhibit
- 20:00 - 22:00 Student Quiz Bowl

Thursday, 7 August

- 06:45 - 08:30 All-out Ostrich Uproar 5K Run
- 18:00 - 22:00 Oregon Zoo Night and Art Walk in Downtown Portland

Friday, 8 August

- 18:00 - 19:00 Pre-banquet reception
- Announcement of Silent Auction results
- 19:00 - 22:00 Banquet

## **SILENT AUCTION**

AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED!! We are seeking donations of items for auction during the meeting. We will have a silent auction to benefit student travel to future meetings. Possible donation items include, but are not limited to, books and field guides (new and used; vintage, hard-to-get, out of print, or autographed books are especially welcome), binoculars or other optics, tripods, field supplies, education materials, services (e.g., statistics, bird identifications, etc.), trips, jewelry, art, decorations, photos, prints, software, DVD's, to name a few. This is the perfect opportunity to support students and recycle those unused, but valuable items sitting in your labs and offices! If you have suitable items to donate, or questions, please contact Laura Nagy ([laura.nagy@ttec.com](mailto:laura.nagy@ttec.com)).

## **AVIAN ART EXHIBIT**

Ornithological art is older than the field of ornithology itself and outlines the history of North American Ornithology. Accordingly, we will open this celebratory 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting with an extensive avian art exhibit and reception that will include treasures from the past as well as works from notable current avian artists. Artists will be available at the reception and their work will remain displayed throughout the meeting. Information about each artist can be found at the PDX08 website. For further information, contact Jon Janosik ([ryokan1@avisnatura.com](mailto:ryokan1@avisnatura.com)).

## **AVIAN POETRY NIGHT**

In celebration of Portland's status as a great literary city, this meeting will feature what may be the first-ever poetry readings at a North American ornithology conference. All poets and lovers of poetry are invited to gather and share their own work, or poems that are important to them – especially with themes of birds or the natural world. The group will meet in the poster reception area on Tuesday 7 August at 20:00. Ornithologist-poets and poetry fans are encouraged to contact Pepper Trail for more information ([pepper\\_trail@fws.gov](mailto:pepper_trail@fws.gov)).

## **DAY OF THE CONDOR**

It is most fitting that in this celebration of 125 years of ornithology, we can celebrate the progress that has been made in recovery of the California Condor. Please join us at Noon on Wednesday August 6th for a special report from the AOU/Audubon Society Blue Ribbon Review Panel on California Condors (chair: Jeff Walters). During this time we will also have several other celebratory presentations in honor of the return of the Condor.

## **EVENING AT THE OREGON ZOO**

Join friends and colleagues for an evening picnic at the Oregon Zoo on Thursday 7 August from 17:00 - 21:00. In continuing our efforts to host a "green" meeting, transportation will not be provided. You are encouraged to ride the MAX. At the Zoo, you will be treated to behind the scenes tours; bird show demonstrations, including discussions of how birds are trained; free access to all zoo exhibits; and a dinner that includes specialties of the Pacific Northwest. The cost is \$45 per person. <http://www.oregonzoo.org/>

## **ART NIGHT IN PORTLAND**

The art galleries in downtown Portland will be open late on Thursday, 7 August for an evening of art, wine, and music. Walk from gallery to gallery to view all of the new art exhibits.

Generally the hours are 18:00 - 21:00, but please check each gallery's website for more information and to view other artists work: <http://www.firstthursdayportland.com/>

### **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

There are a number of student activities planned during the meeting to enhance students getting to know each other as well as some of the leaders in North American ornithology. The first event is an opportunity for students to have **lunch with famous ornithologists on Tuesday, 5 August**. Students and senior ornithologists will meet at noon at the Registration desk and then decide where they would like to have lunch in the local area. Check the PDX08 website for sign-up information. Wednesday, 6 August at 18:30 there will be a reception where all students are welcome to meet and mingle with officers and editors from the AOU, COS, and SCO. The annual student Quiz Bowl will be held immediately following the reception at the Hilton. Details for these events can be found on the PDX08 website or by contacting Michael Murphy ([murphym@pdx.edu](mailto:murphym@pdx.edu)).

### **ALL-OUT OSTRICH UPROAR**

The All-Out Ostrich Uproar run will be held Friday, 8 August. Join runners and walkers for this great morning outing that benefits student awards. Meet at the PDX08 registration desk at 06:45. There is a \$20 registration fee that includes a souvenir t-shirt. Check out the PDX08 website or contact John Sauer for additional details ([jsauer@usgs.gov](mailto:jsauer@usgs.gov)).

### **CLOSING BANQUET**

The closing banquet will be held at the Hilton on Friday, 8 August. We have some very special activities planned to make the final commemoration of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of North American Ornithology. Don't miss it! The cost is \$45 per member; \$30 per student.

### **WHO'S YOUR DADDY/MOMMA??**

As part of this celebration of 125 years of ornithology, we will be compiling a computer database (aka studbook) with information that traces the lineages of early ornithologists all the way to present day scientists. To help us get a running start on this, please add the name of your Ph.D. major professor to the registration form. We will have lineages posted at the opening reception and poster sessions, and will continue to collect this information throughout the meeting.

### **SOUVENIRS**

We have some wonderful souvenirs of this 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of North American Ornithology. They are available now on our PDX08 website as well as at the meeting. The specially designed meeting logo and 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary poster are available in caps, t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc. Order online and specify designs, colors, sizes, etc. Delivery can be via post or at the meeting.

### **BIRDING TRIPS**

**Early Morning Bird Walks:** Each morning, leaders will be available to escort people on early morning bird walks. Pre-registration is not required and details will be available at registration.

**Spotted Owl Trip.** (Sunday, 3 August) – Travel with owl researcher Eric Forsman to an old-growth forest in western Oregon to see Spotted Owls. Other common forest birds that you are likely to encounter are Steller’s Jay, Winter Wren, Hermit Warbler, Western Tanager, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Pygmy-Owl, and many more. Come prepared to hike on steep hillsides.

Itinerary/Cost

Vans or bus leave Hilton Portland at 07:00.

Arrive at field site at 10:00.

Catered lunch provided (specify meat or vegetarian sandwich).

Arrive back in Portland by 18:00 at the latest.

Cost: \$125; minimum group size 8; maximum group size 20.

**Pelagic Trip** (Sunday, 3 August and Saturday, 9 August). – Your fantastic trip starts in Yaquina Bay with abundant waterbirds and chance for rocky-type shorebirds on the jetties. Then, on the **large, 50-foot charter vessel**, you move along shore briefly, viewing Marbled Murrelets, Pigeon Guillemots, and other nearshore specialties, including Gray Whales. Soon we're heading offshore over 30 miles, while your pelagic guides point out birds flying by or sitting on the water ahead. When we reach Perpetua Bank we'll chum albatrosses and other birds right up to the boat for you to observe and photograph! No species can be guaranteed: **Expected species:** Black-footed Albatross, Northern Fulmar, Pink-footed & Sooty shearwaters, Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel, Pomarine Jaeger, Sabine's Gull, Common Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Marbled Murrelet, and Rhinoceros Auklet. August specialties: Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel, Red Phalarope, South Polar Skua, Parasitic Jaeger, Long-tailed Jaeger, Sabine's Gull, Arctic Tern. August rarities: Xantus's Murrelet. For more information and trip preparation materials visit

<http://thebirdguide.com/pelagics/>

Itinerary/Cost:

Bus leaves Hilton Portland at 04:00.

Boat departs dock at 07:00 and returns at 18:00 (11 hours at sea)

Bus arrives back in Portland at 21:30.

Catered lunch provided (specify meat or vegetarian sandwich).

Cost: \$165 per person; minimum group size 22; maximum group size 28.

**East Sand Island Trip** (Sunday, 3 August) --Visit this island at the mouth of the Columbia River that has been designated an Important Bird Area by the American Bird Conservancy. East Sand Island is the site of the largest Caspian Tern breeding colony in the world, the largest Double-crested Cormorant colony in the world, one of the largest colonies of Glaucous-winged /Western Gulls on the west coast of the U.S., and the largest post-breeding roost site for the endangered California Brown Pelican. The island also supports smaller breeding colonies of Brandt’s Cormorants and Ring-billed Gulls. The island’s abundance of waterbirds attracts raptors like Peregrine Falcons and Bald Eagles, while adjacent Baker Bay is prime waterfowl and shorebird habitat. The trip starts at the small fishing village of Chinook, Washington, with a short, 15-minute boat ride to the island. You will spend several hours exploring East Sand Island on foot and by boat, guided by biologists who conduct research on the island’s avifauna. Come prepared to get your feet wet.

### Itinerary/Cost

Vans or bus leave Portland at 07:00.

Arrive at Chinook, WA by 10:00.

Spend several hours on East Sand Island.

Catered lunch provided (specify meat or vegetarian sandwich).

Arrive back in Portland at 18:00

Cost: \$125 per person, minimum group size 8, maximum group size 20.

## **PORTLAND AREA TOURS**

The Portland Oregon Visitors Association website ([www.portlandcvb.com](http://www.portlandcvb.com)) outlines many local places to go and things to see! A simpler approach may be to sign up for one of these tours:

### **TOUR #1: Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve**

**DAY:** Tuesday, **August 5, 2008**

**TIME:** 10:00 – 15:00

**FEES:** \$60 per person (*Includes, bus, guide on bus, guide at Jackson Bottom, box lunch/drink*)

The preserve is a 725 acre wildlife sanctuary located within the city limits of Hillsboro, Oregon, about 20 miles west of Portland. The preserve is a tranquil sanctuary for both people and animals. The quiet open waters and Rolling Meadows of upland ash and fir woods are home to thousands of ducks, geese, deer, otter, beaver, herons, and eagles. The ***Bald Eagle Nest Exhibit***, a display just opened in January 2007, is the first authentic Bald Eagle nest recovered from the wild. Learn how the nest was salvaged, who owns the nest and the challenges of moving the nest to its present site inside the Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve Building. The preserve is a premier resource center for information and services related to wetlands and aquatic education in the Pacific Northwest. ***Minimum of 30 people.***

### **TOUR #2: North Coast/Cannon Beach/Astoria Column**

**DAY:** Tuesday, **August 5, 2008** or Sunday, **August 10, 2008**

**TIME:** 08:00 – 17:00

**FEES:** \$48 per person (*Includes bus, guide, box lunch and all admissions*)

Leaving the Portland Hilton Hotel, we will travel west toward the Pacific Ocean and the town of **Cannon Beach**. Cannon Beach is famous for **Haystack Rock** where you will spend 90 minutes bird watching, enjoy a special interpretive tour of the inter-tidal areas, and learn about the 16.5 million year-old stack. Bird watching scopes and guides will be provided. Not interested in bird watching? Cannon Beach is a great little town with a wide beach for walking, art galleries, and beach-type shops. A fun place to visit! Next we will travel to the nearby town of **Seaside** for box lunches on the beach or a stroll along the quaint promenade. Explore this classic beach town with its mix of shops, carousel, and an aquarium. We will continue on to **Astoria**, the oldest American settlement west of the Rockies. View the city and bay from Coxcomb Hill, climb the 123-ft. Astor Column if you desire, then finish with a trolley ride along the waterfront before we re-board our bus back to Portland. ***Minimum of 45 people.***

### **TOUR #3: Portland Spirit Lunch Cruise**

**DAY:** Thursday, **August 7, 2008**

**TIME:** 11:00 – 15:00 (*Boarding at 11:30; ship departs at noon*)

**FEES:** \$65 per person (*Includes bus, guide and 2 hour lunch cruise with dessert*)

Enjoy a two-hour lunch cruise on the beautiful Willamette River aboard the *Portland Spirit*. We will travel up the Willamette River for a unique “river view” of the city. See beautiful houses along the waterfront and watch for Bald Eagles, Osprey, and Great Blue Herons along the way. Enjoy the scenery from one of three outdoor viewing decks. Or, if it is hot, stay inside and view the scenery from the *Spirit*'s eighty large viewing windows. A wonderful lunch with dessert will be served. Select from three entrées to be served at your table. All meals are prepared on board, featuring the finest Northwest cuisine. All entrée selections are served with salad, bread, and a beverage. A cash bar is available. **Minimum of 30 people.**

### **TOUR #4: Columbia River Gorge/Bonneville Dam/Sternwheeler**

**DAY:** Sunday, **August 10, 2008**

**TIME:** 08:00 – 17:00

**FEES:** \$62 per person (*Includes bus, guide, admission on Sternwheeler, box lunch/drink*)

Our bus will leave Portland and head east traveling through the historic town of Troutdale on our way to the **Historic Columbia River Highway**. We will follow this scenic highway and your first glimpse of the **Columbia River Gorge** at Crown Point that is guaranteed to take your breath away! Stopping just long enough to take pictures at the **Vista House** located 733 feet above the river, we will continue to the Multnomah Falls and Lodge. The gorge scenery includes trees, flowers, many waterfalls and spectacular basaltic rock formations that are only about six or seven million years old! We will stop at **Multnomah Falls**, which at 620 feet in height, is the second highest year-round waterfall in the nation. The visitor's center provides interpretive information on the unique geology of the gorge. From the falls, we will continue east to the **Bonneville Lock and Dam**. Bonneville Dam is a national historic landmark. Construction began in 1933; the lock and dam were dedicated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on September 28, 1937. Operated by the Army Corps of Engineers, the visitor's center is filled with displays on the history of the dam. Don't miss the under-water viewing windows where you can see fish swimming up the fish ladders - and watch as staff count each fish! Continuing east, we will drive to the town of **Cascade Locks** and board the **Sternwheeler Columbia Gorge** for a two-hour trip on the Columbia River. The captain will narrate the history of the gorge, including old tales of how the Bridge of the Gods came to be, a little about Lewis and Clark – and the scenery is gorgeous! The boat will depart at 2:00 p.m. and re-docks at 4:00 p.m. Then we board our bus and head back to the city. **Minimum of 30 people.**

### **TOUR #5: Mount St. Helen's National Monument**

**DAY:** Tuesday, **August 5th, 2008**

**TIME:** 08:30 – 16:30.

**FEES:** \$55 per person (*Includes bus, guide, all fees, box lunch/drink*)

Mt. St. Helen's is North America's only volcanic preserve. Visit **Johnston Ridge Observatory**, the closest visitor center to the mountain. Built like a bunker into the surrounding landscape, the

center focuses the visitor's attention on the smoldering crater some six miles away. You will have a tour and view the observatory. Next we travel to the **Forest Learning Center**, which was formed in an alliance with the Weyerhaeuser Company, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and the Washington State Department of Transportation. It offers information on the eruption, the effect on the environment, and Weyerhaeuser's efforts to speed the recovery process.  
*Minimum of 30 people.*

#### **TOUR #6: Garden Tour/Nob Hill**

**DAY:** Saturday, **August 9, 2008**

**TIME:** 09:00 – 15:00

**FEES:** \$50 per person (*Includes bus, all guide fees, lunch on your own*)

Start the day with a tour of the **Classical Chinese Garden** – an authentic Suzhou-style garden on a full city block in the heart of Portland's Chinatown neighborhood. Painstakingly built by artisans from Portland's Chinese sister city Suzhou, the garden is designed to slowly reveal its orchids, bamboo, and waterfalls as you wind through paths, stroll under archways, and look through windows. Around each bend is a carefully constructed picture-perfect arrangement of flowers, trees, rocks, and water. Next, we will go to the **Japanese Gardens** – recognized as one of the most authentic Japanese gardens outside of Japan. Situated on a hilltop above Portland's Rose Test Gardens, the Japanese Garden offers visitors tranquility beauty and relaxation through five formal gardening styles including a pond garden, a natural setting garden, a sand and stone garden, a flat garden, and a traditional tea garden. Tour guides will interpret in the garden. By now you will be feeling relaxed and hungry, so we will have the bus drop you off on trendy and eclectic **Nob Hill**. One of the first settled areas of Portland, all the streets are in alphabetical order by street name. There are many restaurants for lunch on your own. Funky shops, vintage shops, antiques, and quaint shops abound! After an afternoon of shopping, load yourselves – and your packages – on the bus and head back to the hotel. *Minimum of 30 people.*

#### **TOUR #7: Mount Hood Excursion Train**

**DAY:** Tuesday, **August 5, 2008**

**TIME:** 08:00 – 16:00.

**FEES:** \$61 per person (*Includes bus, guide, 4 hour train trip, box lunch/drink*)

Board the bus and travel east on I-84 to the town of **Hood River**. Along the way, you may see wind surfers enjoying the world-class windsurfing environment of the Columbia River Gorge. The scenery is spectacular as you travel along the Columbia River. At Hood River, we will disembark the bus and step aboard the **Mt. Hood Excursion Train** – a century-old railroad dating from the early 1900's. The train is comprised of enclosed Pullman coaches, a Red caboose, and an open-air car. You will enjoy great views as you travel along the river, through forests, meadows, and fruit orchards on the 90-minute journey to the town of **Parkdale**. A live narration along the way includes local history and key points of interest. At Parkdale you can rest in the park or visit the town's quaint shops. Then the train will turn around and take you back to Hood River where you will re-board the bus for the trip back to the hotel. *Minimum of 30 people.*

## **CLIMATE**

August weather is great in Portland. The average high is 79<sup>0</sup>F and the average low, 58<sup>0</sup>F. Rainfall averages only .99 inches in August. However, please bring layers (including windbreakers) if participating in field trips to the Cascades or the Coast.

## **TRAVEL**

Travel to Portland is easy. Currently, there is nonstop service to Portland from 49 cities, including Chicago, Boston, Orlando, Los Angeles, New York, Washington, D.C., and Guadalajara. Portland International Airport (PDX) is served by 17 airlines with 260 scheduled arrivals and departures daily by all major airlines. The Portland Airport has a light rail link to downtown Portland with a stop at the front door of the Hilton Portland. It is 37 minutes by rail and 20 minutes by car. Airlines serving Portland International Airport include: Air Canada, Frontier, Northwest, Alaska, Southwest, United, American, US Air, JetBlue, Delta, and Continental.

**Car Rental:** Car rental is not needed in Portland unless you wish to travel outside the city. Should you wish to rent a car, AVIS has been selected as the “official” car rental agency for this meeting. The AVIS worldwide discount (AWD) number for the meeting is: J996259. Please call AVIS direct at 1-800-331-1600 to make your reservations. Discounts are effective August 1-12, 2008.

**Airport Transportation:** Blue Star Airport Express has service from PDX to downtown. The fare each way to the Hilton is \$14 and reservations can be made by calling 503-493-7278. Better yet, ride the MAX!

**Rail Transportation to Portland:** Union Station has four Amtrak trains running on various routes 24 hours a day. Washington Park Station allows access to the Oregon Zoo, Vietnam Vet Living Memorial, and the Children’s Museum.

**Getting Around Portland:** MAX has a fareless square serving downtown and also services other locations in Portland with low fares.

**Parking:** A car is not needed in Portland - just ride the MAX; but if you are renting a car or commuting, parking information will be provided on the PDX08 website.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

PDX2008 will take place at the Hilton Portland & Executive Tower, 921 Southwest 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in downtown Portland. The rate for the meeting is \$149 per night single or double occupancy, plus taxes and \$10 charge for each additional person in the room. This is a great rate for Portland in the summer and by staying at the Hilton, you will not need to rent a car. The free MAX mass transit or walking will get you all around Portland. Consider sharing a room with a colleague or sign up for the roommate service provided when you register online. The Hilton allows only up to two beds per room and rooms are either one-bedded kings or two-bedded queens.

To make your hotel reservation, contact the Hilton Portland directly. By phone, call 503.226.1611 or toll free, 1-800-Hiltons. Please ask for the group rate for American Ornithologists' Union. In order to receive this rate, reservations must be made by Tuesday, July 8, 2008. After that date, rooms may not be available or available at higher rates.

Should you need special assistance or have special needs, please contact the conference management office (254-776-3767 or [susanj@sgmeet.com](mailto:susanj@sgmeet.com)) and/or the hotel direct. We will make every effort to accommodate your needs.

## **REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION**

You can register electronically on the conference web site (<http://www.pdxbirds08.org/>). Electronic registrations must include complete credit card information. If registration by electronic means is not possible, please complete the registration form included in this book and send to the address listed below with payment or charge card information.

**PDX 2008**  
**5400 Bosque Boulevard, Suite 680**  
**Waco, TX 76710-4446**

Please make checks payable to: PDX 2008. All payments must be in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank. Registrations complete with purchase order or credit card information (not accompanying an abstract submission) can be faxed to: 254-776-3767.

### **Substitutions or Cancellations**

We understand that occasionally other responsibilities or personal obligations prevent you from attending a meeting for which you have registered. If you find that you will not be able to attend the meeting, we encourage you to send a substitute. Substitutions can be made at any time, even on-site at the conference. If you find it necessary to cancel after you have already paid, we can refund your conference fee minus a \$50 processing fee. To provide cancellation notice and request a refund, please send a letter to: Helen Schneider Lemay, PDX 2008, 5400 Bosque Boulevard, Suite 680, Waco, Texas 76710-4446, fax your request to 254-776-3767, or e-mail the information to [helens@sgmeet.com](mailto:helens@sgmeet.com).

**Registration Fees:** are stated in U.S. dollars and must be paid in U.S. dollars.

#### Members:

- \$300 USD on or before 15 April 2008
- \$350 USD 16 April – 15 June 2008
- \$400 USD after 15 June 2008

#### Student Members:

- \$150 USD on or before 15 April 2008
- \$200 USD 16 April – 15 June 2008
- \$250 USD after 15 June 2008

#### Guest / Social Registrations:

- \$110 USD on or before 15 April 2008
- \$150 USD 16 April – 15 June 2008
- \$200 USD after 15 June 2008

Fees to attend the meeting must be paid in advance. Registrations are not considered guaranteed until a check, money order, purchase order, or charge card information is received. All fax registrations must include complete credit card information, including number, expiration date, and cardholder name. VISA, MasterCard, and American Express are accepted. Organizations can be billed only if a purchase order accompanies the registration either by fax or by mail.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

- Fellows Dinner @ \$45 per person
- Picnic at the Zoo Event @ \$45 per person
- Closing Banquet
  - Members and guests @ \$45 per person
  - Students @ \$30 per person
- All-Out Ostrich Uproar @ \$20 per person.
  - Specify t-shirt size: Small, Medium, Large, X-large

## **Non-U.S. Attendees**

Canadian and Mexican attendees are reminded to bring a valid passport to cross into the U.S. Citizens of 27 countries in Europe and the Far East may also visit for up to 90 days without a visa if the attendee has a passport with a computer-readable bar code. Details can be found at the U.S. Department of State visa website at [http://travel.state.gov/visa/visa\\_1750.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/visa_1750.html) or contact your local American Consulate. If you need a letter of invitation, contact Susan Jones at: [susanj@sgmeet.com](mailto:susanj@sgmeet.com).

**EMERGENCY CONTACT:** In case of an emergency, please contact individuals at the meeting via a personal cell phone or leave a message at their hotel. If you need to reach someone during the meeting, you can call the Hilton Portland at 503.226.1611 and ask that a message be brought to the registration desk. The message will be posted on the meeting message board.

**NEXT MEETING:** 127th Stated Meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union  
11 - 15 August, 2009, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania -- hosted by Villanova University and the University of Pennsylvania.

## **SPONSORS**

We are grateful to the following organizations for their support of this meeting. Please contact Bruce Dugger ([bruce.dugger@oregonstate.edu](mailto:bruce.dugger@oregonstate.edu)) about adding your organization to this list.

- Oregon State University
- USGS Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center
- Portland State University
- University of Portland

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—National Fish and Wildlife Forensic Laboratory
- U.S. Forest Service—Pacific Northwest Research Station
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—Portland Regional Office
- Oregon Zoo
- Audubon Society of Corvallis
- Audubon Society of Portland
- Oregon Audubon Society