



High Desert Voices

A newsletter published by and for volunteers

May 2019



Director's Award Recipients Spring 2019

Contributed by Shannon Campbell, Human Resource Manager & Volunteer Coordinator



The purpose of the “Director’s Award” recognition is to extend the appreciation of the volunteers beyond just a single Volunteer of the Year category; it is a means for the Museum Director, and the senior management team, to provide special discretionary awards or recognition to volunteers who have gone above and beyond their ordinary tasks. This provides a means to recognize varying kinds of our volunteers’ contributions, independent of the amount of time worked or public visibility. Increased appreciation encourages volunteers to stay with the Museum.

Suzanne Barr and **Gloria Rasmussen** were being recognized for their incredible support to our education programs. Both Gloria and Suzanne spent some time searching before settling in to regular volunteer positions at the Museum. Serendipitously, on the same day they both approached Carolyn Nesbitt about any volunteer opportunities

working with Education. Carolyn and myself (Kelsey Ward) figured out that they would both be a great fit for helping with Backpack Explorers. What an amazing help they have been! We have settled into a weekly routine where Suzanne helps on Wednesday mornings with Backpack Explorers and the Café, and Gloria helps on Thursday mornings with Backpack Explorers and then gives the Spirit of the West tour.

Suzanne Barr is a worker bee. She’s persistent and efficient, always putting others before herself. When I feel scattered in the morning before a Backpack Explorers class, I know I can count on Suzanne’s steady presence. Suzanne is a lifelong learner with an amazing growth mindset and seizes any kind of learning opportunity offered to volunteers. Not only is Suzanne amazing in helping organize the chaos of 12 3-5 year-olds, 12 or more adults, and numerous younger siblings all using glitter in Classroom C, but also she works tirelessly behind the scenes as well. Here’s a peek into what Suzanne accomplishes behind the scenes without ever seeking recognition or credit: an amazing re-do of Classroom C’s bulletin board, bringing her own personal steam cleaner in early to clean the rug, taking sewing and mending projects home, and reorganizing and cleaning the Education art closet. What does Suzanne do at 11:00 am, after an exhausting hour with Backpack Explorers? She washes dishes for Cathy. This woman is incredible!

Gloria Rasmussen spent a career as a Museum educator, and I feel so lucky to have her as a mentor, assistant, and friend. We can bounce ideas off each other and I am so thankful for how, specifically, she has helped me to improve how I introduce pre-K visitors to art installations and exhibits. More than almost any other Museum program, Backpack Explorers offers the opportunity to get to know returning families week after week. Gloria constantly surprises me by remembering siblings’ names, small details of stories kids tell her, and delights in picking a unique necklace almost every week that helps to break the ice. Gloria also gives an amazing SOW tour every Thursday, using tasteful props to involve all of the audience’s senses and engaging every age group she has on her tour.

Marge Trayser works at admissions, the store, festivals, and all of the evening programs. If a call for help goes out to volunteers, Marge is always available, enthusiastic and willing to help out. She attends all of the trainings and exhibit tours and knows how to answer our visitors’ questions in the consistent manner we want shared. She’s a pleasure to work with and an invaluable asset to the Museum. She has been a nice addition to our Volunteer Advisory Council this year as well.

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

There was a great turnout for the first Volunteer Appreciation breakfast event. Staff and volunteers filled the café and enjoyed a catered meal. As you can tell by the pictures, a good time was had by all.



Photos by Todd Cary & Heather Duchow

Connecting People to Wildlife by Focusing on the Details

by Heather Duchow, Newsletter Writer



Maybe it's the eye of a perched merlin reflecting the surrounding trees. Perhaps it's the spread of the Swainson's hawk's tail feathers as it lands or the outstretched talons of the peregrine falcon as it aims for a reward, or the subtle iridescence of a turkey vulture's plumage. It could even be the multi-colored pattern on the outside of a hornets' nest or the array of hexagonal cells on the inside. There is something each photographer is trying to capture at a Conservation Photography Workshop at The High Desert Museum. By giving photographers the opportunity to focus on the details, the workshops are "connecting people to wildlife in ways they may not be able to experience otherwise in hopes of fostering a wider conservation ethic throughout our community," says Jon Nelson, Curator of Wildlife.

The Museum has offered about eight Conservation Photography Workshops over the past three years, and another will take place on Saturday, April 27th. Registration is limited to twelve participants,

and the workshops always fill up. Their popularity with people who have not recently visited the Museum suggests they attract a unique audience. It's an audience that Jon says, "has included folks who enjoy wildlife photography but are unable to get out to do it because of age or disability."

At each workshop, the photography aspect has been lead by volunteers including George Lepp and members of the Museum's volunteer photography team including Abbott Schindler and John Williams. Jon Nelson and other members of wildlife staff manage the wildlife aspect of the workshops.

Workshops have a Friday evening classroom session and a full day of photography on Saturday. At the classroom meeting, photographers learn about the animals, receive guidance for photographing them, and meet the workshop leaders. It's an important opportunity for Jon to talk to participants about why the animals are at the Museum and to impart some specific instructions about interacting with the animals. For instance, tripods make most of the raptors at the Museum pretty uncomfortable, so no tripods or rolling camera bags with telescoping handles are allowed near raptors during portrait or flight sessions.

The schedule on workshop Saturdays depends on the focus of the particular workshop. The Museum has offered two different types of photography workshops, one that presents raptor and mammal photo opportunities, and one with an emphasis on macro and close-up photography.



At the raptor- and mammal-centered workshops, most of the day is spent outside. It often starts with otter photography shortly after 8:00 am. It continues with raptor portraiture followed by encounters with mammals like the porcupine, badger, and skunk. The highlight of the day for many participants is the opportunity to photograph raptors in flight. The photographers are treated to something very similar to the *Raptors of the Desert Sky* flight program with the bonus of closer positions and more time.

In contrast, the two most recent winter workshops have taken place mostly indoors. With an emphasis on macro or close-up photography, Abbott Schindler says these workshops “have been focused more at introducing participants to the wondrous details ani-

mals have, like scales, small teeth, different hair or fur patterns, and textures.” In December, photographers pointed their cameras at a number of reptiles and amphibians, while Kelsey Yates, Associate Curator of Wildlife, provided interpretation and answered questions. Subjects included an assortment of natural history objects from the education department and Jon’s personal collection. A selection of bird and large mammal skulls, snakeskins, and other artifacts were chosen for their uniqueness. Owl skulls attracted particular attention.



As at all Museum photography workshops, participants at the December workshop shot up-close portraits of raptors. Some raptors, including the gyrfalcon, perched in the warm classroom. Others, including the great horned owl and the peregrine falcon, perched in the chilly afternoon sunlight.



The workshops are scheduled to wrap up by 2:00 pm. After six hours, photographers seem to feel like they’ve had a pretty good day. It has been a special opportunity to participate in an activity they love. They leave knowing their registration fees help feed and care for the animals at the Museum. They’ve spent the day intently engaged in something that interests them, and they’ve learned something about High Desert wildlife. They leave with good wildlife shots and memories of a good experience. Many enjoy the workshops so much that they return over and over, while others have become Museum members because of the experience.



Introducing Kelsey Yates, Associate Curator of Wildlife

by Dave Gilbert, Newsletter Writer



Kelsey Yates held a hundred jobs and volunteer positions before she found the one at the High Desert Museum last July, where she is an associate curator of wildlife. However, her enthusiasm and energy act as a gas pedal on her speech, so maybe it just seems like a hundred. She talks fast.

Kelsey was born “twenty-five-and-a-half” years ago in Portland; she has a younger sister named Sarah, who is a social worker.

Her father, Steve, was a contractor, mostly building homes, and at the age of 45 became a realtor. Her mother, Tracy, was a graphic designer before she had kids, when she became a stay-at-home mom. Now she uses her creative skills helping Steve in his real estate business.

Kelsey attended public schools in Gresham, and, she says, “competed in every sport you could do.” She ticks off a few: “running, softball, volleyball, basketball, swimming...” All that exercise was helpful.

“I was a chunky kid,” she says, grinning. “I loved to eat.” Today, she is anything but “chunky,” and spends time working out in a gym.

She was a good student, taking many Advanced Placement (AP) courses at Sam Barlow High School, including one in which she dissected a starfish. “It lit my fire,” she said. She was valedictorian of her graduating class.

She wanted to attend college out of state, but her parents lobbied for her to stay closer to home. She did. Kelsey enrolled at Oregon State, majoring in biochemistry, until she discovered “it was a lot of chemistry and little biology.”

So she changed to general biology where marine ecology “struck a chord.” Because of her AP courses, she was able to graduate in three years.

As part of her studies, she did a job-shadow at the Oregon Coast Aquarium in Newport. She really liked it. “No day was the same,” she says, “and the people you meet really care.”

She wanted to work as an aquarist, “a fish zookeeper,” so she volunteered at Hatfield Marine Science Center to get some experience. She commuted from Corvallis in her father’s old pickup.

That’s where she met Rufus, “a tiny red octopus that could fit in the palm of your hand.”

She took care of Rufus before learning to open up to the public, “because I didn’t enjoy talking with the public.” Rufus helped Kelsey come out of her shell of shyness.

“I started asking people if they wanted to watch me feed the octopus,” she says, “and asked them if they had any questions.” The experience convinced her that “educating guests about animals is my calling and what makes me happiest.”

Kelsey learned of an Aquarium Science Program at Oregon Community College in Newport and enrolled after graduating from Oregon State in 2015. While completing her studies, she continued working at the Hatfield Center as a paid employee.

After graduation she and her “long-term boyfriend,” moved back to Corvallis. They were engaged to be married.

Kelsey was holding three part-time jobs. She was an activities coordinator in an assisted living facility, worked part-time for a “tropical fish wholesaler” in Albany, and helped teach SCUBA diving classes at Oregon State.

She also did seasonal work for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, conducting Chinook salmon surveys.

“I burned out,” she says.

Then she was offered a job in New England at an aquarium. Her fiancé refused to join her.

“It didn’t work out,” she says. She holds up her hand and laughs. “See? No ring.”

She moved to Norwalk, Connecticut, in April 2017, and “bounced around.” One of the bounces landed her in an “exotic animal” veterinary clinic, where she worked with “birds, reptiles, and wildlife.”

“It gave me a huge appreciation for other animals,” she says. However, the stress was getting to Kelsey. “I was grinding my teeth at night,” she said. She also missed home, so she made plans to move back to Oregon.

Kelsey Yates—continued

A friend sent Kelsey a job posting from the High Desert Museum for an associate curator of wildlife. She applied and got the job.

She came to work on July 1, “in the height of the summer craziness.”

“They gave me some keys and said ‘GO’,” Kelsey says. “I felt overwhelmed.”

She says volunteers came to her rescue. “They really helped orient me,” she says, “I love them so much, and they’re also my friends.”

“Working here is a dream come true for me,” she says. “Getting to take care of “these charismatic critters” and introduce them to guests “makes me feel pretty lucky.”

Photo by Dave Gilbert

Petroglyph or Pictograph?

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

On April 12, I went on a *Harney Basin Rock Art Tour* near Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. Our guides, Scott Thomas, retired Burns BLM District Archaeologist, and Carolyn Temple, Burns BLM District Archaeologist, took us to two sites with several examples of rock art. We learned that rock art can last thousands of years. However, dating the exact time the images were created can be difficult. Images can be realistic or more abstract. The abstract rock art is generally older.

In the Harney Basin, there are two types of rock art: Petroglyphs and Pictographs. Which type do you think is pictured in the first row of photographs below?



Which type is pictured in this row?



The top row shows pictographs painted onto the rock. Pictographs were painted in various shades of red, black, yellow, or white. The second row shows petroglyphs. Petroglyphs were carved, scratched, or pecked into the rock. Pecked petroglyphs and red-painted pictographs are the most common forms of rock art in the Harney Basin.

Photos by Siobhan Sullivan

Cycles of Nature: Arctic White Geese

by Raven Tennyson, Newsletter Writer



Still tucked under snow and cold nights, spring emerges with lengthening days. The shadows lengthen and I am aware of new birds that show up daily on their migration northwards: violet-green swallows, white-throated swifts, and turkey vultures.

Here winter lingered and spring plants lay dormant. We arrived in Burns, Oregon in anticipation of observing Arctic white geese on their journey northwards. We were too early. The birds had not arrived yet. I had hoped to film the geese. Watching thousands of Arctic white geese feed and spiral up to catch winds as they fly between fields is an experience that stirs the soul. It is a frozen moment in time when the entire world is felt. I live for these times and journey to migration stopovers to witness these rites of spring.

Kelly Hazen, a retired BLM employee who lived in Burns, was also stirred by these movements. After work she spent time observing the Arctic white geese. One day a friend said, "If you see a red neck band with black letters, those birds were banded on Wrangel Island, Russia in the Arctic." Kelly was stunned and driven to look more closely at the thousands of Arctic white geese passing through Burns.

Her enthusiasm motivated her for 17 years to observe these birds each year as they returned to Burns. She recorded 5,000 bands. Out of all the banded geese, she saw five individual birds wearing red neck bands. These birds had been banded in Russia and would normally be observed along the Pacific Flyway further west from Burns. Hazen reported the neck bands to the U.S. Geological Survey's Patuxent Bird Banding Lab. and Canadian Wildlife Service. As part of the program, the researchers sent her information on the birds' gender, where and when it had been banded, and other observer's records on where the birds had been seen. Hazen's attention to detail led her to witness, in some cases, the arrival of the same birds on the same day each year. Mated pairs of geese were also seen arriving on the same day each year.

Hazen's observations helped her discover a fact scientists did not know; the dominant species of Arctic white geese in Burns during migration is the Ross's goose, not the snow goose.

Ross's geese winter in the Central Valley of California along with other Arctic white geese. In the early 1900s, the Ross's goose was the main Christmas goose for San Franciscans. Because of hunting for holiday dinners, the population of Ross's geese dwindled to less than 5,000 birds. In response to this decline, the state of California initiated protection of the goose's habitat and banned them from being hunted in 1931. In 2007, the population was believed to exceed 2 million birds.



In addition, Hazen's observations revealed that the Ross's goose began its migration later than other Arctic white geese. Later arrival times in the north meant birds needed to mate, nest, and raise their young more quickly.

Unlike passerines whose young hatch with eyes closed, have no feathers on their bodies, and are completely dependent on their mothers for their protection and growth, geese are born with their eyes open and are ready to leave the nest within a few days. Though the young geese follow their parents, they find their own food.

Migrating Arctic white geese typically arrive in Burns sometime around March 15 and stay until the middle of April. Hazen observed that the snow geese arrive earlier than the Ross's geese and all the Arctic white geese depart Burns no later than May 1.



During a spring trip to Arizona this year to catch some spring baseball, we looked forward to our return to Central Oregon via Burns. We hoped to catch the arrival of the geese but as we drove into Burns on March 22 the fields were empty. This year, due to turbulent weather, the geese arrived later than expected in Burns.

Along with biological discoveries, Hazen learned the joy and love of watching birds year after year. Her passion deepened for citizen science and helping scientists answer questions that they didn't know the answers to. "My goal was to recognize the Ross's goose, and to understand their unique recovery. These birds are remarkable birds coming back from extinction. We are so lucky to see them in Burns. What matters is to keep your eyes open for opportunities and to take these opportunities," said Hazen

"The importance of citizen science on a personal level is it allows people to make a contribution to science," said Hazen. "I realized the major contribution it is making, is contributing accurate and valid data.

Citizen science can make a big difference. It makes you feel good providing valid data that is used and appreciated."

Hazen has proven this and thanks to her observations, we now understand the significance of the Arctic white geese returning each year to Burns.

Photos by Siobhan Sullivan & Wikipedia

In Memoriam of Lynne Schaefer

by Ronele Schaefer, her daughter



On Tuesday, April 2, 2019 my mother, Lynne Schaefer passed away in her sleep at the age of 85, and is now at rest after a courageous battle against many types of cancers over the years. Per her wishes there will be no services. Here's some information about this amazing lady, mother, wife and best friend we would like to share. She was married to my father, Lee Schaefer for 63 years. She was, and will always be the love of his life. Lynne was an usherette at Seals Stadium, charter member of Contra Costa County Legal Secretaries Association, and the San Francisco Bay Area Ski Writers Association. She enjoyed skiing, figure skating, western movies, talking baseball, teddy bears, history, sewing, gardening, and baking. Lynne wrote numerous newspaper columns, magazine articles, a blog *Lynne's Notebook*, authored and self-published three books: *A Travelers Guide to Historic California*, *Christmas Trivia Quiz*, and her memoir *His Daughter's Remembrance*. Born and raised in California and later moved to Sunriver, Oregon, she would refer to as "a great place to live and play!" Lynne was a longtime volunteer at The High Desert Museum in Bend, Oregon as a docent for the "Spirit of the West" exhibit. She loved sharing her knowledge of history and would try and stump guests with trivia along the way.

She will be missed, but will always be in our hearts and memories – our Guardian Angel.

In lieu of flowers contributions can be made to The High Desert Museum, "In Memory of Lynne Schaefer, Spirit of the West". <https://highdesertmuseum.org/donate/>

Lynne was also a much admired member of the High Desert Voices newsletter team. We always looked forward to reading her profiles of volunteers and staff. She also wrote interesting articles about some of our events, exhibits, and local attractions. We remember learning many interesting facts in her two-part article about Camp Abbot.

We were fortunate to have her be a part of our team. She will be greatly missed.

High Desert Voices Newsletter Team

The Most Common and Adorable Pacific Tree Frog

by Zoe Klein, Newsletter Writer



The Pacific tree frog (*Pseudacris regilla*) is a species of frog native to the northwestern reaches of North America. With a range spanning California, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia, and even southern Alaska, you can find Pacific tree frog while hiking anywhere from sea level up to 10,000 feet. This frog can be seen in a variety of ecosystems and habitats such as meadows, stream and river banks, woodlands, and brushy areas because this species only requires small ponds or streams to be able to reproduce successfully. In Oregon, the Pacific tree frog is the most common frog you will find, and lucky for that because they are so cute.

Distinguishing a Pacific tree frog from other frogs takes only a little practice. This frog is the smallest frog in Oregon, only growing to a mere two inches in length. In general, males are smaller than females and have a dark throat pouch that is used for their ribbiting. The most conspicuous sign of a tree frog is the large black or dark brown eye stripe that spans from the frog's nose to the back of the shoulder. Another feature to distinguish them from other frogs is the rounded toe pads on the tips of their toes. Interestingly, this frog can be found in a variety of color shades including green, tan, reddish, grey, brown, or black. They may or may not have subtle spots across their back. The most amazing aspect of their coloration is that individual frogs can change their color depending on the air temperature and humidity of their environment!

To reproduce the Pacific tree frog only requires a small amount of water. They can breed in shallow ponds, slow moving streams, seasonal pools, and damp roadside ditches. These locations are only utilized by the frogs for a few weeks out of the year, generally between the months of November to July. To mate the male frogs travel from their upland dwellings to the water. They then begin "calling" for females. The classic *ribbit* or *kreck-ek* is the male Pacific tree frog calling for a mate. Additionally, this calling also encourages other males to join in the chorus. In general, the males sing in the evening or at night, but can also be heard randomly calling during the day. Once partnered the female frog's eggs are fertilized externally by the male. She produces 400 to 750 eggs in one breeding season that are grouped together in egg masses containing 10 to 75 eggs. These masses are attached to sticks or vegetation just below the water surface. Eggs hatch in 3 to 5 weeks producing little tadpoles. In 8 to 10 weeks the tadpoles will have finished metamorphosis and will have transformed into air breathing young frogs!



For most of the year, the Pacific tree frog does not need to live in water. They tend to move to upland and other terrestrial habitats. Only when reproducing do they move to water. Recent studies have concluded that to find their ponds to reproduce, and they must have some sort of "homing" instinct. However, the explanation for how they know where their home pond is remains unknown.

The Pacific Tree frog's diet consists of a variety of arthropods such as flies, ants, crickets, beetles, and moths. They are often predated on by birds, mammals, other reptiles, and fish. However, their best defense is their ability to camouflage to match their surroundings.

Fortunately for Oregonians and our ecosystems alike, the conservation status of the tree frog is rated in the category of "least concern", meaning the populations are healthy and lasting. This means that when you go on your next hike, be sure to search for the Pacific tree frog! Because your hunt may be fruitful, this frog may just be spotted-or it may not be.

High Desert Museum Area Updates from April 2019

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

Collections—The team is anxiously awaiting the arrival of new Collections Manager, Sarah Baylinson. She will begin working on May 1.

By Hand Through Memory—The team met earlier this month with Laura Ferguson. One of the drums will no longer be on display.

Naturalists—There were some adjustments made in their schedule to accommodate the upcoming *Oregon Encounters* event.

Photography—They had a meeting earlier this month with Communications and were happy to hear how some of their photographs are being put to use. They are an important part of grant proposals for the Museum. The LED lights are being utilized more. There will be a *Wildlife Conservation Photography* workshop featuring a classroom segment on April 26 and photography sessions on April 27. Some of our birds of prey will serve as models for the participants.

Desertarium—The training of animals continues to go well. Two of the three tortoises are ready to progress to crate training. The bearded dragon is still a challenge to train but the blue-tongue skink is doing very well. She responds well to a cricket treat.

Birds of Prey—The *Sky Hunters* demonstrations over Spring Break went well. Training for summer demonstrations is under way. This demonstration will also include the golden eagle and peregrine falcon. Hiring of seasonal staff and interns is currently taking place. Interviews for the permanent position are also occurring. Nine new chickens will be gradually introduced to the current occupants of the Miller Ranch chicken enclosure.

Gallery Attendants—Training for volunteers interested in working as gallery attendants occurs in May.

Silver Sage Trading Center—The store has new sunglasses that are selling well. Business was up at the store over Spring Break.

Living History—There will be a training for interpreters on May 9 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. They will be learning how to engage visitors more through conversations. The training will include volunteers working at the carpentry shop.

Admissions/Greeters—There were over 9,000 visitors at the Museum in the last week of March. Attendance was also up for the first two weeks in April since schools have their Spring Break at different times of the year.

Kudos Korner

by Siobhan Sullivan, Newsletter Editor

Several staff and volunteers were thanked for their work in April. **Patrick Johnson** and the **Facilities** crew were thanked for doing a great job clearing snow from the parking areas and sidewalks. Some of them have been there as early as 2:00 am on snowy days to start clearing snow away before visitors arrive. **Shannon Campbell** and **Cathy Lang** were thanked for a “job well done” at the recent Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast. It was a lot of fun and the volunteers appreciated the opportunity to talk with each other and staff members. Prior to the ethnobotany talk, **John Barr** came to the aid of a person who had fallen. His help was greatly appreciated. The **Naturalist Team** was thanked for doing an additional *Nature Walk* during Spring Break. They went the extra mile to ensure our visitors had opportunities to participate. The **Birds of Prey staff and volunteers** were thanked for all the work that went into the *Sky Hunters* demonstrations. **Elisa Pare-Mayer**, and her daughter **Alexa**, were thanked for doing “whatever it takes without any complaints” in the Birds of Prey area. **Siobhan Sullivan** was recognized for winning first place in Children’s Fiction in the Central Oregon Writers Guild Contest. The award ceremony, with public readings by the winners, takes place on May 18 from 1:00-4:00 pm at the downtown Bend library. Readings will also be held on May 3 from 6:00-8:00 pm at Herringbone Books in Redmond. Kudos to all of you!



High Desert Voices

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HIGH DESERT MUSEUM

BEND, OREGON

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2019



2019

May	June—Save the Date!
<p>4 Museum Workshop: <i>Oregon Spotted Frog Stewardship Adventure</i>. 9:00 am — 1:00 pm. \$10, Members receive 20% discount. RSVP.</p> <p>10 Exhibit opening: <i>Kids Curate</i>.</p> <p>11 Off-site Event: <i>Birds Beyond Borders: A Migratory Bird Day Event</i>. 9:00 am — 1:00 pm. At Tumalo State Park 64170 O.B. Riley Road, Bend. Free, \$5 state park fee per vehicle.</p> <p>11 Off-site Event: <i>Metolius River Plein Air Landscape Drawing Field Trip</i>. 10:00 am — 1:00 pm. \$50, Members receive 20% discount. RSVP.</p> <p>11 Thorn Hollow String Band. 11:00 am—2:00 pm.</p> <p>12 Mother's Day. Mothers get in free.</p> <p>14 Off-site Event: <i>Natural History Pub: Forest Ecology and Management in Central Oregon</i>. 7:00 pm (doors open at 5:30 pm). Free. At McMenamins, 700 NW Bond St., Bend. RSVP.</p> <p>15 Senior Day. Free admission for visitors over the age of 65.</p> <p>18 Off-site Event: <i>Swainson's and Squirrels</i>. 7:00 am — 2:00 pm. \$50, Members receive 20% discount. Registration and pre-payment required.</p> <p>21 VAC meeting. 2:00 pm. All volunteers welcome!</p> <p>22 Museum Event: <i>Bird World: Insights for Humans from the World of Birds</i>. Café open 5:00 pm — 6:00 pm. 6:00 pm — 7:00 pm, \$10, Members receive 20% discount. RSVP.</p> <p>24-26 Off-site Event: <i>PLAYA Great Basin Natural History Weekend</i>. SOLD OUT. \$250/person (\$400 double occupancy). Registration and pre-payment required.</p> <p>30 Museum Event: <i>Bad Land Music: Performance by MOSley Wotta</i>. 6:00 pm — 7:00 pm, doors open at 5:00 pm. No-host bar. Café open 5:00 pm — 6:00 pm. \$10, Members receive 20% discount. RSVP.</p> <p>31 Museum Event: <i>Survive! The Oregon Trail Let's Play!</i> This is strictly a 21+ event. 6:00 pm — 9:00 pm, doors open at 5:30 pm. No-host bar. Café open 5:30 pm — 8:00 pm. \$45 per team of two, Members receive 20% discount. \$10 for spectators, Space is limited. Registration and prepayment required.</p>	<p>8 Thorn Hollow String Band. 11:00 am—2:00 pm.</p> <p>18 VAC meeting. 2:00 pm. All volunteers welcome!</p> <p>26 Museum Event: <i>Waterston Desert Writing Prize Award Ceremony</i>. 6:30—8:30 pm. doors at 6:00 pm. Hosted wine bar and hors d'oeuvres. Free. RSVP.</p>

To RSVP: www.highdesertmuseum.org/rsvp
or call 541-382-4754.

To pre-register: www.highdesertmuseum.org/program