

## Backyard bird watching with Harry: by Harry Johnson

It's the great white invader from the north. Harry Potter's pet, Hedwig, was one. It's one of the most desired creatures in any birders' field guide. It's the Snowy Owl. Perhaps you've had the good fortune to see one of these gorgeous Arctic visitors for yourself. This winter, the snowy owls are invading the lower 48 states in record number.

Check out my quiz and let's see how much you really know about these beautiful birds.

**What is the primary prey species of snowy owls?**

- Lemmings and other small rodents.
- Marmots and other medium-sized mammals
- Snow buntings and other songbirds
- Carrion or dead animals

**In a nesting season when food is abundant, how many eggs will a snowy owl lay?**

- Only lays eggs when food is scarce.
- As many as 4
- As many as 8
- As many as 16

**Compared to adult female snowy owls, adult males are:**

- Smaller and paler
- Larger and darker
- Smaller and darker
- Indistinguishable

**Snowy owls are:**

- Nocturnal (most active at night)
- Diurnal (most active during the day)
- Crepuscular (most active dawn and dusk)
- Omurnal (active all day and night)

**Who builds a snowy owl nest?**

- The female alone
- The male alone

- The male and female together
- A Gyrfalcon, whose nest the snowy owl appropriates

**What color are the snowy owl eggs?**

- White or creamy
- Pale blue
- Tan with brown speckles
- Pink to deep rose

**Ok, how did you do? Let's see.**

1. A: Lemmings and other small rodents. Snowy owls eat small rodents like Lemmings and mice, ground squirrels.

2. D: As many as 16 snowy owl eggs have been found in one nest. More common during seasons when food is abundant is 8-9 eggs.

3. A: They are smaller and paler. The female is the larger of the two.

4. B: Unlike most owls, snowy owls are most active during the day. Remember in the

north there's more daylight, some days the sun doesn't go down at all.

5. A: The female alone. While male snowy owls select and defend the nest, females build it.

6. A: They are white or creamy.

Well, what do you think? Are you ready to go out and look for these beauties? If you see one please let me know where you've seen it.

For those of you who wish to meet other bird watchers, you're welcome to come join us at My Place Café in Cave Junction each Saturday morning at 8:30. We meet on the side behind the buffet. I hope to see you all there. If you want to email me, you can reach me at [birdwatching@frontiernet.net](mailto:birdwatching@frontiernet.net).

The above is brought to you by Harry Johnson and the Bird Watchers Digest



Backyard Bird Watching by Harry Johnson is brought to you by

## My Place Cafe

"Where Good Times, Good Folks and Good Food Come Together"

## The Farrier's Corner: by Ray and Michelle Smith

### First Time Equine Buyer's Tips

When considering horse ownership, particularly for the first time, many things must be considered.

First, be honest about your horsemanship and riding abilities. If you are a novice, or possess only modest horsemanship skills, avoid buying a very young and/or green horse. Don't rationalize buying such a horse by saying, "Oh, I'll just send it to a trainer." Truly good trainers are often hard to find and training fees aren't cheap. Your animal may be in training for 30 to 90 days just to get the basics. You may end up with a better trained horse after professional training, but you still have a young inexperienced horse. You need to be a competent horseman and rider to successfully maintain and further the horse's ability.

If you are buying a horse for a young child or inexperienced teen, also avoid the young and/or green horse. Do not fall into the trap of buying a baby and thinking the child and horse can grow up and learn together. An inexperienced child should not be placed on a green horse to learn basic riding skills. By the same token, a green horse should not be subjected to the confusion of being ridden by

an inexperienced child. What one ends up with is generally a case of the blind leading the blind and an accident waiting to happen. An older been-there-done-that horse may be a safer bet.

Take a more experienced horse person with you when viewing prospective horses. They may notice things that you don't. Do not buy a horse without seeing it in the flesh. An internet picture and description is not good enough. Do not buy a horse solely based on its coat pattern, color or pedigree. Consider each horse on an individual basis and look at the entire package. You'd be better off, and maybe safer, to pick a sound level-headed ugly horse than a high strung brainless beauty.

Arrive prior to the horse being worked and warmed up. Watch the seller catch and tack up the horse. Ask them to pick up and handle each hoof. Inquire as to how well the horse trailers. Ride the horse, preferably in a round pen or arena, or have a more experienced rider ride while you observe. If this is a trail horse, you may want to try it out on a trail. (Do not forget to wear your riding helmet!) If the horse is belligerent, stubborn or aggressive with any of the above mentioned activities, give serious

consideration as to whether this behavior is something you can handle. If it isn't, move on.

If you are a first time buyer, or have limited horse knowledge, be wary of the "rescue" horse. It is true that many equines are living with inadequate care or are in abusive situations. Many are seized or voluntarily given up each year. This really tugs at the heartstrings of those who love animals. While one does occasionally find a diamond-in-the-rough, many rescue animals come with substantial emotional and/or physical issues. Additionally, little or no information may be available regarding the horse's history.

Some horses are purchased at auction. Horses run through a general livestock auction can be somewhat akin to rescue horses. Like rescue horses, you may occasionally find an inexpensive horse that is a real gem. In recent years, some good horses have been offered for sale through livestock auctions due to tough economic circumstances. However, the phrase "buyer beware" definitely applies to auctions. What you see is what you get, but you may not immediately see all that you're getting. Depending on where you live, a veterinarian may be on site performing pre-sale health

checks. This is a good idea, but is not the same as a pre-purchase exam. Less desirable horses, with no better sales prospects, are often unloaded through livestock auctions. These horses may be aged, have chronic lameness, occult metabolic disorders, dangerous habits or other serious issues.

Consider your price range and bear in mind there is no free horse. Paying a ridiculously high price doesn't guarantee a good horse, but a free horse isn't necessarily a bargain either. Over its lifetime, a horse may consume literally tons of hay and grain. They require regular worming, regular vaccinations and regular farrier visits. You'll also need adequate durable shelter, cover for hay storage, fencing and turnout space. That's the necessary stuff.

Then, there's the unexpected stuff. If a horse can injure itself anyhow on anything, it will. That's not to mention random health problems - respiratory infections, abscesses, colic etc. You're going to have vet bills.

There's also fly spray, fly masks, blankets, tack, grooming supplies, feeding buckets, water troughs, bedding, maybe a trailer and possibly training. Once again, there's no free

horse. If a buyer cannot afford a reasonable price for a horse, they likely cannot afford to care for the horse. Horse's are an expensive hobby.

Up to now, this article has discussed horses. Let's just have a small word here on mules. Mules are reputed to be more sure footed, longer lived and generally stouter than horses. They can be very clever and versatile. They do however, have their own unique behaviors. They are not exactly like horses. Depending on the mule, they may be more than a novice owner can, or should, handle. If you are dead set on a mule, do your homework and choose carefully. Depending on where you live, you may be able to find a local or regional mule enthusiasts group where you can consult with more experienced long-ear folk. All the pre-purchase advice for horses applies to mules. Under no circumstances buy a "problem" mule - period.

The point of this article is not to scare prospective new buyers out of equine ownership, quite to the contrary. Equine ownership should be an enjoyable adventure. The more knowledge you have, the better decisions you can make. If you do bring a horse or mule into your life, we hope you both enjoy the ride!

# Church News

## Community Bible Church

### When E.F. Hutton Talks: People Listen

"For the turning away of the simple will slay them, and the complacency of fools will destroy them, but whoever listens to Me will dwell safely, and will be secure, without fear of evil." Proverbs 1:32-33

In the 1980's there was a series of TV commercials for E.F. Hutton, an investment firm, in which a young professional was depicted at a large, noisy social gathering. This young professional would be talking to those at his table and would say something along the lines of, "My broker is E.F. Hutton," and the room would immediately become silent because everyone wanted to hear what financial advice E.F. Hutton would give. That advertisement made a good point - where there is wisdom, knowledge, and understanding being presented, people should listen. Most people realize that our culture, our society, and even our nation are in difficult straits in many ways. There is so much

time-tested conventional wisdom that has been thrown out as old-fashioned and out of date with our "modern" times, and we foolishly race headlong into a very uncertain future. It is akin to a boat that is cut loose from its dock and is heading toward a great waterfall. I am afraid the relative ease of the past decades has made us complacent. And according to our verse from Proverbs, "the complacency of fools will destroy them." Now, I don't want to be too gloomy or doomy, but I believe it's likely that there are difficult days ahead. There is probably wisdom in doing what one can to try and do some planning, and I am sure there is wisdom in seeking after the Lord, for "He is a strong defense in a time of trouble." Psalm 59:16-17 May the Lord bless and keep you as you seek Him.

In Christ,  
Pastor Dave

### Ministry at CBC

Sunday, January 31st  
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Praise and Prayer 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday  
A.W.A.N.A. 6:30-8:00  
Age 3 - Grade 6

Community Christian Academy  
Preschool - 12th grade

## Places of Worship

**BRIDGEVIEW COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
5181 Holland Loop Rd., CJ  
541-592-3923  
"Come Join the Worship!"  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Pastor Sonny Moore  
[www.kbcc.us](http://www.kbcc.us)

**COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH**  
Pastor Dave Gordon  
113 S. Caves Ave., CJ  
Office: 541-592-3896  
Email: [cbccca@gmail.com](mailto:cbccca@gmail.com)  
Sunday Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
Christian Academy  
Pre-K to 12th grade  
Awana - Wednesdays - 6 p.m.

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
East River Street  
& Lewis Court, CJ  
Annemarie Richardson  
Lay Pastor.  
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Worship - 10 a.m.  
Church Phone: 541-592-2290  
[www.goodshepherdlutheraniv.net](http://www.goodshepherdlutheraniv.net)

**ST. MATTHIAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
25904 Redwood Hwy., CJ  
541-592-2006  
Rev. James Boston  
Worship Service - 5 p.m.  
1st Sunday of each month

**7th DAY ADVENTIST**  
265 S. Old Stage Rd., CJ  
Sabbath School - 9:30 a.m.  
Saturday Worship 11 a.m.  
Pastor Christian Martin  
Church (541) 592-3218  
Madrone Adventist School  
541-592-3330

**ST. PATRICK OF THE FOREST CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
407 W. River St., CJ  
541-592-3658  
Fr. William Holtzinger, Pastor  
Mass - Sunday 11 a.m..  
Sacrament of Reconciliation  
Sunday - 10:30 a.m.  
Holy Days TBA

**VALLEY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**  
498 Laurel Road, CJ  
P.O. Box 1248  
Pastor Marvin Porter  
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.  
Worship Service - 11 a.m.  
Evening Service 6 p.m.  
[evfree@frontiernet.net](mailto:evfree@frontiernet.net)  
541-592-6160

**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
209 S. Junction Ave., CJ  
Sacrament Meet - 10 a.m.  
Sunday School - 11:20 a.m.  
Priesthood, Relief Soc. - 12:10 p.m.  
Bishop G. Frank Sybrant  
541-245-3394

**IMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
200 Watkins St., CJ  
Phone 541-592-3876  
Pastor Charles Chase  
Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Worship - 9:15 a.m.  
Child-care for small children

**TAKILMA BIBLE CHURCH**  
10300 Takilma Road, Takilma  
Pastor Dan Robinson  
Bible Study / Prayer Time  
9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11 a.m  
Wednesday Bible Study  
7 p.m

**FOUNTAIN OF LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
451 S. Junction Ave., CJ  
541-592-3956  
Pastor Mark McLean  
Morning Worship  
9:30 & 11 a.m.  
Wednesday - 7 p.m.  
Adult Bible Study

**First Baptist Church of Selma**  
18285 Redwood Hwy., Selma  
541-597-4169  
Pastor Monty Pope  
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.  
Worship - 11 a.m.





*"Serving the Best Cheeseburger, with an Attitude!"*

**TUESDAY - SUNDAY  
NOON - CLOSE  
KITCHEN CLOSING AT 8  
NOW OPEN SUNDAYS!**

**RIB~EYE MADNESS • JAN. 24**

**12235 Redwood Hwy • Wonder, OR  
541.476.8990**