

OCTOBER 1985

# VOLUME XIV NUMBER 2

#### OCTOBER 11, FRIDAY

MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETING Remember our new time and location: 7:30 P.M. at the Snohomish Cty PUD Building, corner of California and Virginia in Everett (parking in rear of building on Virginia). AL MOSER of Snohomish will be our special guest. He will talk on "Observing and Tracking." Al is well known as a teacher at Everett Community College and Community Schools and has taught classes on Native American living methods and survival techniques and on observing the world out-of-doors. The program will be for the whole family and promises much adventure and fascination for all.

## OCTOBER 19, SATURDAY

FIELD TRIP: CRANBERRY BOG Leader: Ramona Curtis (691-6823). Meet at 10:00 A.M. at Granite Falls High School. We will be exploring a unique ecosystem close to home. Joining us will be Al Moser (see above), experienced tracker and nature observer, who will show us some of the little things we tend to overlook. Wear warm clothes. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy at Ramona's house after the trip.

## OCTOBER 26, SATURDAY

#### FIELD TRIP: MARCH POINT AND WASHINGTON PARK

Leaders: Keith and Nancy Lehn (337-0485). Meet at 9:00 A.M. at the bank building at Smokey Point, exit 206 off I-5. This will be mostly a driving trip to March Point and Washington Park. On previous trips to the area, we have seen eagles, brant, yellow-billed loons, ducks of all sorts, shorebirds and seals.

# NOVEMBER 9, SATURDAY

### FIELD TRIP: REIFEL ISLAND AND RICHMOND NATURE PARK

Leader: Terri Spencer (435-8602). Meet at 7:00 A.M. at the bank building, Smokey Point, exit 206 off I-5. We are leaving earlier than usual as this will be a long day. Reifel Wildfowl Refuge is in British Columbia near Ladner as is Richmond Park. Reifel is well-known for its uncommon migrants from Siberia. Anything is possible. There is an admission fee of \$2 per adult and \$1-1.50 for children. Richmond Nature Park is a 106-acre park consisting of several trails through a bog and forest environments. There is also an interpretive center with displays. We will be going to the park first and probably won't get home until dark. Bring lunch, snacks, raingear and warm clothes.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT AUDUBON PROFILE ISSUE: PROGRAM MEETING, OCT. 11

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

#### by Curt Howard

The State Game Department will soon, if it has not already done so, make a decision about permitting capture of gyrfalcons for use by certain classes of falconers. The gyrfalcon is the world's largest falcon, breeding and living in the Arctic. Some birds, believed to be juveniles, winter in the northern states. Most of Washington's birds occur east of the Cascades. Pilchuck has requested that no permits be issued. Our request is based on two points. (1) We feel that insufficient data is available for a valid evaluation of captive impacts, both to man and the bird, and (2) we object strongly to removing an animal from the wild to be manipulated by man for his private pleasures.

A document entitled "Snohamish River Wetland Units Preservation Management Plan" has been released by Snohomish County. It contains the past preservation attempts and a review of the past six months' study by Shapiro and Associates at the request of Snohomish County. A technical team consisting of environmentalists (including Laura Zalesky of PAS), property owners, the Tulalip Tribes, and government agencies developed recommendations to acquire and protect from development nine segments of the remaining wetlands. It further recommends that the county hire a project coordinator to begin implementing the plan. Now is the time to write a letter to the County Council requesting that they do this. Write to Chairman Bruce Agnew, 6th Floor County Administration Building, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett, WA 98201.

The U.S. Department of the Interior is currently proposing to expand the scope of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act of 1982 (18 U.S.C. 3509). This Act prohibits Federal subsidies for roads, bridges, development loans and flood insurance. The Act has been created to protect East Coast barrier islands (e.g. Padre Island in Texas). The development of these fragile lands is often a wasteful and dangerous

expenditure of our tax dollars. Because these barriers are extremely subject to nature's battering rams, storms, etc., they may require large expenditures of public money to replace man's fragile "improvements" after a bit of knocking about. A fairly recent example of this is the disaster on Camano Island when a combination of a high tide and a strong storm flooded a housing development on the seaward side of Triangle Cove. The Coastal Barrier Resources Act seems to be part of the awakening realization that it is folly not to work within the constraints imposed by nature.

The proposed expansion of scope will include Alaska, Hawaii, the Great Lakes and the Pacific Coast. No such barriers have been identified in Snohomish County, but 81 sites have been identified in the State. The State Department of Ecology has taken a stand against the addition of the State of Washington coasts, fearing perhaps Federal intervention in States Rights. Unfortunately, this Act does not go far enough; it still allows state subsidies and private development. It seems that in the name of progress (growth) we must use everything, or as I call it BI-BI (pronounced bye-bye) -- build it and blacktop it.

### \* \* \*

#### GET YOUR BIRD SEED FROM US!

PAS sells bird seed the year round. Black Russian sunflower seeds and wild bird seed mix are available in 10 and 50 pound bags. Ten pounds for \$5.00, 50 pounds for \$25.00. Seed will be sold at each program meeting, or you can call any of the following:

#### Stanwood: Curt Howard 652-9619

Ecmonds: Susie Schaefer 771-8165 Granite Falls: Sandy Howe 691-5720 S. Everett: Marianne McKnight 337-4777 N. Everett: Julie Winchell 259-4733

#### ELLENSBURG CONFERENCE

Washington Audubon members will gather at Central Washington University in Ellensburg on October 11-13 to participate in Chapter Development sessions and to learn about the critical habitat needs of Washington's wildlife.

The conference begins Friday evening at 6 p.m. with socializing, registration and a discussion of Selkirk Caribou and Grizzly populations in the state. The conference ends early Sunday afternoon with Chapter Resolutions and an Open Mike session on the key habitat concerns of Audubon members. In between Friday and Sunday there will be briefings and discussions on Spotted Owls, Mountain Goats, and species dependent on the shrub steppe habitat of the Columbia Basin. A session will be offered on population ecology and the causes of extinction. Tom Juelson of our state Non Game program will update us on threatened and endangered species in the state. There will be sessions on wetlands, the Columbia Gorge, and the habitat impacts of small scale hydro projects.

Audubon members will receive a briefing on Initiative 90. This initiative when passed (and the Coalition of Wildlife will need your help to pass it!) will raise \$35 to \$40 million annually for Washington's wildlife. Last but not least, the redoubtable Hazel Wolf will present a slide show on her recent adventures in Nicaragua.

In addition to issues, time will be devoted to chapter development and networking. Workshops are being arranged for members interested in fundraising, membership, education, newsletters and publicity.

Reservations for food and lodging should be made by October 7. Send them to: Conference Center, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 98926. For more information call Pam Crocker-Davis 1-206-786-8020 or Dan Worsham 1-208-882-1771.

# PLASTIC POLLUTION: A WORLDWIDE OCEANIC PROBLEM

by Susie Schaefer

From Newfoundland to Australia, biologists studying seabird feeding ecology in the early 1970's started noticing an odd prey item in their subjects' diet: plastic. Similar stories soon appeared of plastic ingestion and entanglement in plastic debris among sea turtles off Costa Rica and Japan, whales in North America, bottom fish in southwestern Great Britain, reindeer in the Aleutian Islands, and fur seals in the North Pacific.

Plastic shows up in the marine environment in two forms: manufactured pieces and raw materials. Most of this refuse comes from transport, fishing and recreation vessels. Ten years ago, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences estimated that almost 300 million pounds of plastics were dumped or lost into the sea.

Seabirds, marine turtles and marine mammals all eat plastic mistaking it for items of natural prey. Plastic is virtually indigestible, and individual pieces may accumulate and cause gastrointestinal disorders.

The problem of plastics at sea is global and its solution will require international cooperation. Unfortunately, the high seas have been considered an international no-man's-land. The U.N. has been addressing this problem since 1972 but greater enforcement of laws and treaties is still needed.

(The above information was adapted from an article by Felicia C. Coleman and D.H.S. Wehle.)

Last year the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, along with the plastics industry, held a major beach clean-up effort with over 2100 volunteers collecting an estimated 26.3 tons of plastic and litter.

### SNOHOMISH COUNTY'S GARBAGE BURNER ~

# A STATUS REPORT

by Mike Grubb

Plans are slowly progressing to place a garbage incinceration plant in Everett. Though no one is discussing details, it seems the siting phase for RESCO's proposed \$150 million plant is taking longer than expected.

RESCO (Refuse Energy Systems Co.) plans to burn 1500 tons per day of municipal garbage from Snohomish County and north King County in a mass-burn incinerator and produce marketable electricity. Pilchuck Audubon Society has taken a stand against the building of a massburn incincerator of this size at this time for these reasons:

- a. More attention should be paid to waste reduction and recycling efforts.
- b. Air emissions are substantial from an incincerator of this type, from acid gases (tons daily) which contribute to acid rain, to heavy metals and dioxins.

Efforts to prohibit King County's garbage - at least to put the question on the November ballot - failed to gather the required number of signatures in the allotted time.

What are the alternatives to a massburn incincerator (in which the garbage goes directly from the trucks to the fires without any front-end separation)?

1. Waste reduction and recycling. Enormous public inertia would have to be overcome, and even in the best scenario with the public recycling on a larger scale, there will still be the greater percentage of the waste stream to burn or bury.

2. Continued landfilling. Though a certain amount of landfilling will continue if a garbage burner is built, to dispose of the ash, the garbage volume will be reduced by 90%. Landfilling instead of burning is not acceptable in the long run, due to problems with land availability and pollution of our water resources. Even though the leachate from the landfill is captured and sent through the sewage treatment process, this process can't deal with some of the pollutants in the leachate which will find their way into Puget Sound.

3. A "materials recovery plant." Recovery of recyclables at the front end, including ferrous metals recovery. Paper fibers could be separated from plastics, to be sold for reuse. Plants similar to this are in operation in Rome and Oslo. But Snohomish County won't take the risk on a technology which hasn't proven itself economically and technologically in the USA.

4. At a recent Evergreen Coalition meeting, a representative of Scandia Waste Systems described an alternative to RESCO's mass-burn incincerator. His plan includes:

a. Ferrous metals recovery

b. Separation of paper and some plastics from the rest of the waste stream by a novel "ballistic classification" technique. The paper and plastic would be burned in an upgraded boiler at Scott Paper. Steam would be generated for Scott Paper's own use.

c. The large organic fraction of the garbage would be composted and sold.

d. The Scandia plan would limit itself to Snohomish County's garbage.

The Scandia/Scott plan would be considerably less expensive than RESCO's and would result in lower levels of air emissions. Less material would be taken to the landfill than with the RESCO plan.

To get the sanction of the County to proceed with a waste incineration plant, any proposal will have to fit in with Snohomish County's solid waste management plan, meet the Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Agency's guidelines for emissions, and will have to obtain an operating permit from the Snohomish County Health District. Other permits will be required as well.

The City of Everett, which has been acting as the lead agency in the RESCO proposal, has been asked to hold public hearings on the issue before we get to the stage of EIS scoping meetings (at which time the important decisions will already have been made). To date, no hearings have been scheduled and the issue is being given a generally low profile.

4. profile.

# by Margo Shepard

Coastweek is a national celebration aimed at increasing public awareness of the environmental, economic, recreational and esthetic value of our coasts. It has been celebrated since 1982 by numerous organizations which focus attention on coastal resources. These organizations commemorate Coastweek through activities such as coastal nature walks, canoe trips, beach parties, library and museum exhibits, etc...During Coastweek '84, seventeen governors proclaimed Coastweek and it was endorsed by the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. This year, Governor Booth Gardner will be asked to sign a proclamation to officially designate October 7-14 for the observance of Coastweek.

The Governor's proclamation will have particular relevance at this time given the recent attention focused on Puget Sound. The media have brought the importance of Puget Sound to public awareness through articles on the significant role the Sound plays in our economy and how its economic value is being reduced through environmental degradation. Numerous shellfish beds have been closed in recent years and fish in some areas are not suitable for human consumption due to biological/chemical contamination. Several organizations throughout the Puget Sound area are involved in activities aimed at cleaning up the Sound. The Puget Sound Water Quality Authority which has been designated through an act of the legislature to develop a comprehensive plan for Puget Sound by January 1, 1987, has been working with these organizations to identify major issues and concerns. Coastweek acknowledges the importance of these activities. You can play an active role in Coastweek by doing one or more of the following:

- Call or write Governor Gardner to suggest the Coastweek proclamation.

- Write a letter to the editor of your local paper about coastal issues.

- Write an article for your local paper on Puget Sound and/or its associated tributaries. - Encourage your newspaper editor to write an article for Coastweek.

Also, be sure to celebrate Coastweek through activities sponsored by organizations in your area (watch the newspapers) or by going on an outing with family and friends to experience the beauty and complexity of our shores.

## NATURE TOURS OFFERED BY SEATTLE AUDUBON SOCIETY

SAS-Tours provide comfortable accomodations and expert guides to prime Northwest birding areas. Prices include hotels, transportation by van and picnic meals. Tours are limited to 16 participants in two vans with one leader per van. Leaders include Gene Hunn, Phil Mattocks, George Gerdts, and others.

- Oct. 11-14, 1985 Sequim Cost: \$275 Fall Migration: Dungeness, Protection Island, Hurricane Ridge, Cape Flattery.
- Nov. 8-11, 1985 Anacortes \$295 Winter Waterfowl/Raptors:Skagit Flats, Whidby Island, San Jauns by boat.
- Feb. 14-17, 1986 Chelan \$250 <u>Winter Birds of Eastern Washing-</u> <u>ton: Methow and Okanogan; owls,</u> <u>falcons, finches, Bohemian Wax-</u> wings, white Gyrfalcon here in 1985!
- May 23-26, 1986 Hood River \$295 <u>Summer Birds of the Columbia</u> <u>Gorge: Klickitat, Mount St. Hel-</u> ens; birds of the east and west, lowlands and mountains; Spotted Owl here in 1985.
- June 16-21, 1986 Tri-Cities TBA Summer Birds of Eastern Washington: Potholes, McNary Refuge, Juniper Forest, Blue Mountains, Turnbull Refuge, Pend O'Reille; a bit of everything this trip.

For information call the Seattle Audubon office at 206-622-6695.

#### DEPARTMENT OF GAME LAUNCHES

## BACKYARD WILDLIFE SANCTUARY PROGRAM

In June, the Washington Department of Game announced a new program to help homeowners who want to attract birds and other wildlife to their own backyards. It will also give recognition to the conservation efforts of individuals who have provided resources for wildlife in residential areas. The Department of Game will issue a certificate suitable for framing that designates the property as an official backyard wildlife sanctuary.

To qualify your yard, you simply need to provide the basic necessities of food, shelter, and water for wildlife. Food and shelter can be provided for many species simply by having trees and shrubs in the yard. Supplemental feeding and housing, as well as birdbaths or other water sources, can often substantially increase the resources needed by some species. If you are interested, write to this address:

Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary Program Washington Department of Game 16018 Mill Creek Blvd. Mill Creek, WA 98012

All of us, whether we are aware of it or not, are habitat managers whose actions affect the wildlife around us. Collectively, we have a much greater impact on wildlife in residential areas than do all of the wildlife professionals in state or federal agencies. Wildlife in residential areas is affected by the styles and conditions of our houses, by the number and arrangement of trees and shrubs, and by the food and shelter that may be purposefully provided in a neighborhood. Being aware of wildlife around the home and applying some basic principles of wildlife management can minimize problems associated with some species and, at the same time, benefit those species we consider desirable.

THE FABLE OF THE FOX AND THE GOOSE

It's the old story: introduced predator threatens native species and there is little agreement on how to eliminate or reduce the threat of the introduced species. This time it's wildlife on the barren chain of Aleutian islands over which the controversy has arisen.

Arctic foxes, brought by Russian fur traders in 1836, have multiplied to such an extent that the already endangered Aleutian race of the Canada Goose is being further endangered, and the head of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's endangered species program has proposed dropping pellets of the powerful poison Compound 1080 on Kiska Island for a start to kill off the arctic foxes. "We're trying to preserve a natural ecosystem," he says, "rather than maintain an artificial one."

David Cline, Alaska representative of the National Audubon Society, disagrees and challenges the agency to prove its need for the poison. Defenders of Wildlife ask that other methods be tried, shipping in native hunters, for instance, to trap the foxes. None of the proposed alternatives would be as cheap as poison.

Actually, the Aleutian Canada Goose populations have increased within the past ten years. One island may have as many as 4,000 geese, a number of whom winter in the San Joaquin Valley of California where they are protected. "A radical program is unnecessary at this time," Defenders of Wildlife say. "If the geese were teetering on the brink of extinction, it might be another matter."

Aleutian Canada Goose records from the Puget Sound area are thin indeed. Eugene Hunn (Birding in Seattle and King County) lists a couple of sightings and, in April, 1980, "an apparent Aleutian Canada Goose" on Green Lake in Seattle.



# BIRD SIGHTINGS - AUGUST TO SEPTEMBER 13

- August 10 Seen on the hike to Heather Lake were VAUX'S SWIFTS, a COMMON FLICKER, RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD, TOWNSEND'S WARBLERS and an unidentified juvenile CROSSBILL.
- August 12 A BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK and two BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLERS were seen at Virginia Clark's home north of Arlington.
- August 17 A SEMIPALMATED PLOVER and 3 or 4 BAIRD'S SANDPIPERS were observed in the Port Gardner Bay area.
- August 19 One BLACK-THROATED GREY WARBLER in company with BLACK-CAPPED and CHESINUT-BACKED CHICKADEES seen in Edmonds (Ed Burrows).
- August 25 Fred Bird took the Westport Boat Trip with Terry Wahl and reports seeing CASPIAN TERNS, BROWN PELICANS, CASSIN'S AUKLET, ANCIENT MURRELET, MARBLED MURRELET, HEERMANN'S GULL, PINK-FOOTED SHEARWATER, FLESH-FOOTED SHEARWATERS, RED PHALAROPES, SOUTH POLAR SKUA, BLACK-FOOTED ALBATROSS, FULMAR and FORK-TAILED STORM PETRELS. (A pelagic bonanza!)
- AUGUST 25 Observed at Troublesome Cr. near Index a SPOTTED SANDPIPER, STELLER'S JAY, BARN SWALLOW, BROWN CREEPER and numerous ROBINS (Beth Burrows).
- AUGUST 30 A BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER seen by Curt Howard near Wiley Slough.
- AUGUST 31 Hundreds of WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS were seen at Rainy Pass on the North Cascades Highway. Also, at Hart's Pass were WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS, several WATER PIPITS and HORNED LARKS (Fred Bird).
- SEPTEMBER 2 A pair of WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS and a BLUE GROUSE were seen near the Evergreen Lookout at Skykomish by Joe Gnagey.
- SEPTEMBER 3 50+ CEDAR WAXWINGS at Marysville (Ed Burrows).

- SEPTEMBER 4 One thousand RED-NECKED PHAL-AROPES were seen at Richmond Beach (Seattle Audubon Hotline).
- SEPTEMBER 5 A VESPER SPARROW and SEMI-PALMATED SANDPIPER were seen at the Montlake Fill in Seattle (SAH)
- SEPTEMBER 6 A BANK SWALLOW was observed flying at the Kent Ponds (SAH).
- SEPTEMBER 7 Two BUFF-BREASTED SAND-PIPERS, a juvenile RUFF, BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE, 7 WHIMBRELS, 20 BROWN PELICANS, several PECTORAL SANDPIPERS and several LESSER GOLDEN PLOVERS of two races were all seen at or near the Ocean Shores Game Range (SAH).
- SEPTEMBER 8 Fifteen RED-NECKED PHALA-ROPE were observed at the Everett Sewage Ponds (SAH). Two juvenile STILT SANDPIPERS were seen at the Montlake Fill (SAH).
- SEPTEMBER 8 A female BLACK-THROATED GREY WARBLER, lots of CHESTNUT-BACKED and BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEES, a BEWICK'S WREN and female COMMON YELLOWTHROAT were seen feeding in the rain at Terri Spencer's home northwest of Arlington. The highlight of the potluck birdwalk was a GREEN-BACKED HERON feeding in Bruce and Mary Esther's pond.
- SEPTEMBER 10 Two "resident" RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEES in the Burrows' yard in Edmonds were joined by five others, mostly juveniles in various stages of moult.
- SEPTEMBER 13 Near Warm Beach, Curt Howard observed 25 WHITE-FRONTED GEESE.

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- SEND YOUR SIGHTINGS TO Terri Spencer/Steven Howard 23329 - 27th Avenue NE Arlington, WA 98223
- CALL BIRD SIGHTINGS TO Terri Spencer/Steven Howard 435-8602
- OTHER SIGHTINGS Seattle Audubon Hotline 1-526-8266 Swan Sightings 775-0137 Falcon Research Group 1-822-9690 (to report WA falcon sightings)

HELP FOR INJURED WILDLIFE Wildlife Care Center of Everett Dr. Yearout, D.V.M. 353-3814 Kaye Baxter 337-6900 WSP (report injured wildlife) 259-8585

STOP POACHING HOTLINE 1-800-562-5626 WASHINGTON STATE PATROL (WSP) 259-8585 A report taken on the hotline may not reach the local agent until the next day; a report taken by the WSP will be relayed directly to the agent over his vehicle radio.

# URGENT MESSAGE FROM THE SIGHTINGS DEPT.

We need your help. Pilchuck Audubon keeps a file on birds reported seen in Snohomish County and on Camano Island - the areas for which PAS is responsible. Our records are sparse compared with those from some other counties and Audubon groups in the state. The reasons may be obvious: PAS watchers like to visit birding "hot spots" which are often located in other counties, ignoring their local parks and backyards as insufficiently exciting. Ironically, a number of important observations in our area are made by visitors from Seattle.

In the long run, a seasonal tabulation on chickadees, kinglets, and swallows may prove as significant as the addition of an Asian or tropical stray to someone's life list. If you keep a regular record of sightings in your area, why not send a copy to the Bird Sighting Committee once a year so that it can be entered into the files?

Here's the information we need: species of bird or as accurate a description as possible if you're not certain; general behavior; the exact location seen; and the date seen. If you think you have something out of the ordinary in your yard, call in a knowledgeable birder if you can reach one, get your sighting authenticated. Best of all, if you have the equipment and the opportunity, take a picture! And don't forget, even the experts make mistakes. Ask any of them. They'll tell you about the time....

### JETTY DAYS! IS IT GOOD?

#### by Joan Lucas

A dark object plummeted into the water and caught my eye as I waited to board the Sea Scouts' boat returning passengers to the mainland from Everett's Jetty Island. Scrambling onto a high boulder to get a better view, I saw it was airborne and gliding toward the west shore.

Swooping, circling, diving into the water with folded wings, the osprey tried four times to catch fish without success. On the fifth try, it came out of the waves with a salmon so large it seemed the sea hawk would not be able to sustain the weight as it flew toward the mainland. Its powerful wings dipped and heaved to maintain a forward motion while a thieving gull chased not far behind. The osprey disappeared with its salmon into the tall trees below Legion Park, frustrating the gull's intentions.

The boat dock was loaded with people awaiting passage home. Their heads turned to watch the duel over the bay. It was a sight appreciated by more than just birders -- a fitting event at the close of a day spent exploring nature.

Life and death were apparent in more than the osprey catch that day. Plants and grass destroyed by the runaway fireworks on the Fourth of July left sooty remains underfoot, but the new green of tender shoots contrasted brightly with the blackened earth and promised renewal.

Picnicking, swimming, nature tours and sand sculpture contests were a few of the events which attracted a diversified crowd to Everett Park Department's late August event. Volunteer Sea Scouts also enticed land-lubbers by offering transportation.

"Jetty Days" was good for people. It was an imaginative innovation on the part of the park department, and I enjoyed the experience along with everyone else. But I wondered as I watched a gull bombing a family of three when they disembarked on the island's leeward shore -is it good for the jetty? Is it good for the Arctic terms -- for the seals?

# OFFICERS/COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS - 1985-1986

- \*President: Curt Howard - 652-9619
- \*Vice President: Bill Lider - 776-0671
- \*Secretary: Bonnie Phillips-Howard - 652-9619
- \*Treasurer: Thomas Paine - 259-3845
- \*Conservation: Anne Grubb - 668-4462
- Solid Waste & Recycling: Conservation Subcommittee Mike Grubb - 668-4462
- Toxics and Tosic Wastes: Conservation Subcommittee Don Kusler - 334-6781
- \*Education: Beth Burrows - 775-5383
- \*Field Trips: Terri Spencer - 435-8602
- \*Finance: Sandy Howe - 691-5720
- Membership: Virgina Clark - 435-3750 \*Board Positions

\*Programs: Susie Schaefer ~ 771-8165 Newsletter Committee: Ed Burrows ~ 775-5383 Sally Lider - 776-0671 Lee Minshull - 258-1175 Bonnie Phillips-Howard - 652-9619 Bird Sightings: Terri Spencer - 435-8602

- Eagle Count Coordinator: Terri Spencer - 435-8602
- Christmas Bird Count: Bill Lider - 776-0671
- Sanctuaries: Joyce Kelley - 568-5974
- Publicity: Syd Carlow - 339-8325
- Hospitality: Nancy Salvadalena - 337-7458
- Corson Research: Linda Evans - 334-8308
- Snohomish River Estuary Study Coordinator: Laura Zalesky - 337-2479
- Sea Lion Coordinator: Sterling Lantz - 745-3235

\* Application for joint membership in National Audubon Society and Pilchuck Audubon Society.\* \* Includes National Audubons's bimonthly magazine AUDUBON and Pilchuck Audubon's monthly \* \* PROFILE newsletter for one year. Make your check payable to National Audubon Society. \* \* \* NAME PHONE Check type of membership \* desired. Mail application \* \* ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ and your check to Pilchuck \* \_\_\_\_\_ Audubon Society, PO Box 1618,\* \* CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ Everett, WA 98206. \* \* INDIVIUAL \$30.00 SENIOR CITIZEN INDIVIDUAL \$21.00 SUPPORTING \$100.00

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# AUDUBON: MINT, GUMMED, PERFORATE, SE-TENANT, OR IN SOUVENIR SHEETS

In the scramble to save our wetlands, woods, and wilderness areas, we tend to forget that 1985 is the 200th anniversary of the birth of Audubon. He may be the worst role-model for a modern conservationist but his paintings and field notes served (and still serve) to arouse the interest and lead to the involvement of many who might otherwise have little appreciation for the wildlife of the United States.

It's ironic (or can it be another sign of the times?) that the U.S. has honored Audubon in the philatelic field with only a 22¢ portrait stamp in its current Great Americans series (along with Admiral Nimitz, General Knox, and Sylvanus Thayer). Our Postal Service may have felt that the "Fifty State Birds and Flowers" set issued in 1982 and based on paintings by Arthur and Alan Singer should hold wildlife lovers for many years to come. (Since state governments, with our without public assistance, have shown an extraordinary lack of imagination when it comes to naming state birds, there are too many mockingbirds, meadowlarks, and cardinals in that set.)

World-wide, however, more than 100 postal entities are issuing stamps honoring the 200th birthday of Audubon with reproductions of his paintings. The effort is being coordinated by the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation in New York. Although there are some 1100 birds depicted in the 435 plates of Audubon's Double Elephant Folio, not all are appropriate for the restricted dimensions of a stamp, so there are already a good many repeats on the stamps issued so far and there will undoubtedly be more. The color reproduction in those I have seen has been excellent - probably superior to what is often sold as an "Audubon print."

Errors are bound to occur. Your editor has already spotted one. Audubon's painting of a Common (Red-Shafted) Flicker is identified on a stamp from Burkina Faso (Upper Volta) as "Asyndysmus lewis" rather than "Colaptes auratus (in part)" as it would be known today. The Burkina Faso designer may be forgiven for the lapse since the Flicker does occur on a plate with four other woodpeckers including the Lewis species.

It's too bad, I suppose, that proceeds from the sale of these stamps will go into the coffers of the governments issuing them or to the owners of righto the original plates and not to the Audubon Society or some coalition of conservation organizations, but if you or your family are not ready to spend \$1500 on leatherbound copies of the Double Elephant Folio facsimile edition, then the 1985 Audubon stamps from around the world may be just the ticket, and may be educational in other ways as well.

# **Pilchuck Audubon Society**

P.O. Box 1618, Everett, Washington 98206



Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Marysville, WA 98270 Permit #66

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED