

Pilchuck Audubon Profile



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'Tis the season for the Christmas Bird Count

Holiday parties, snowmen, pretty lights ... and counting birds! To many, the holidays are synonymous with the Christmas Bird Count.

Pilchuck Audubon participates in two Christmas counts – one each in the north and south areas of the county. Our count areas are divided up and teams cover them. We need lots of volunteers! Birders of all levels are welcome. At the end of the day, we'll gather for a potluck to compile the numbers.

Teams are also encouraged to go owling early in the morning or in the evening after the potluck. Feeder and backyard counts are also helpful.

The north county count is Sat., Dec. 20. If you're interested in participating, contact Mary Teesdale (meteesdale@hotmail.com) or Scott Atkinson (scottratkinson@hotmail.com) for more information.

The south county count will be Sat., Dec. 27. Contact Jan Van Niel for more info: 425.778.7568 or sjvanniel@comcast.net.

January program meeting Fri., Jan. 9, 7 p.m.

Port Gardner Bay Osprey update

Mike Blackbird and Bill Linder will share the latest on the plan for nesting pilings for our local Ospreys.

Community Wildlife Certification

Our new program chair, Laura Harvell Spehar, will discuss the program, currently in process on Camano Island and in Edmonds. It's an exciting opportunity for communities, birds and other wildlife.

**Note new location
(through the end of the year):**

Everett Firefighters Hall
2411 Hewitt Avenue, Everett
See map on back page.

For more information, call 425.252.0926

**Watch www.pilchuckaudubon.org
for the most up-to-date information!**

Election brings opportunity, need for action

By John Flicker, President and CEO, National Audubon Society

Voters in this historic election cast their ballots not only for change, but for a new era of hope for our environment, and the people, birds and other wildlife that depend on it. Washington DC has been ignoring critical environmental issues for too long. President-elect Barack Obama and a more environmentally-aware congress offer the promise of leadership and fundamental change that could usher in new protections for America's great natural heritage, and a new lease on life for species in decline.

Despite real reason for optimism, we cannot take conservation gains for granted. Audubon is committed to helping the new administration and congress to live up to their great promise; and to make conservation, clean energy and green jobs part of America's path to a brighter tomorrow.

Through our local chapters, state offices and national grass-roots efforts, Audubon will join with others in the environmental community to ensure that our newly elected leaders lead the way on issues vital to our environment, our economy and diversity of life on Earth.

Issues demanding prompt attention include:

Presidential appointments: President-elect Obama should start by appointing (to key environmental positions within his administration) qualified leaders who will defend our clean air and water, protect habitat and endangered species,

aggressively address global warming and steward our great natural heritage for future generations.

Scientific integrity: The Dept. of the Interior should systematically review and reverse decisions made by the past administration under the Endangered Species Act that were influenced by political considerations and not by sound science.

President-elect Obama should send a clear signal to everyone in his administration to restore and respect scientific integrity in all environmental decisions.

Global warming and renewable energy: President-elect Obama has said: "We cannot afford more of the same timid politics when the future of our planet is at stake." He's right. We welcome the opportunity to help him deliver his promised \$150 billion plan for clean energy technologies that would

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President's message

By Mike Blackbird, President, Pilchuck Audubon Society



As I write this column, a Piliated Woodpecker eats at my suet feeder. The Romans viewed woodpeckers as good omens, which I hope reflects what recent electoral results mean for the environment. I suspect most Americans recognize climate change as a valid concern; after all, we've lived with the concept since it was first seriously discussed in 1957.

In 1988, *Time* editorialized that the consequences of global warming required that governments begin preventive measures to slow the buildup of carbon dioxide. In 1995, a report issued by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change predicted widespread economic and environmental dislocation over the next century unless rising greenhouse gases were curtailed. We're well familiar with the arguments.

As evidence of the perils of climate change continue to mount, governments must come to terms with the likely political ramifications of extreme weather, rising sea levels, changing precipitation patterns and agricultural dislocations affecting the world's food supply. To ignore climate change will threaten the survival of democratic institutions, particularly in developing nations. It's possible to envision a flood of environmental refugees from countries incapable of feeding and supporting them, engulfing more fortunate nations.

Unfortunately, efforts to control emissions of greenhouse gases threaten the short-term fiscal goals of corporate America. With that in mind, to counter mounting scientific evidence, the Global Climate Coalition began operating out of the office of the National Association of Manufacturers in 1989. Since 1994, the GCC has spent more than \$63 million to combat any progress toward addressing the climate crisis.

Its budget serves solely to influence the news media and government policymakers on climate change.

In 1998, the oil and gas industries spent \$58 million lobbying Congress to blunt rising concern over climate change. That same year, environmental groups mustered a puny \$4.7 million spent on all issues, not just global warming.

Corporate America's PR strategy is not aimed at reversing the tide of public opinion. Its goal is simply to stop people from mobilizing and insisting Congress and the White House address the issue. For the past eight years, this "lobbying for lethargy" strategy has been successful, as the Arctic permafrost melts and the ravage of malaria seeks new victims in warming temperate climes.

On January 20, 2009, I trust that an administration with vision will take office, committed to supporting an emerging green economy that will foster energy independence and reduce greenhouse gases, while taking its place as a leader of world governments addressing climate change.

Whoa! A Downy Woodpecker just flew to my suet feeder.

A hearty thank you to Art Wait for organizing the recent birdseed sale. Thanks, also, to Keith Lehn and Mike Blackbird for helping!

About Pilchuck Audubon Society

The Pilchuck Audubon *Profile*, official newsletter of Pilchuck Audubon Society, is published monthly September-April, and bi-monthly May-August.

Pilchuck Audubon Society (PAS) is a grass-roots environmental organization with members throughout Snohomish County and Camano Island, Washington.

Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife, for the benefit of the earth's biological diversity.

Through education, advocacy, and community activism, PAS is committed to bringing people closer to wildlife in order to build a deeper understanding of the powerful links between healthy ecosystems and human beings, and to encourage the involvement of our members in efforts to protect the habitat this wildlife depends upon for survival.

We serve as a local chapter of the National Audubon Society. PAS is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt, non-profit organization incorporated in the state of Washington.

Newsletter submissions
Submit articles to annette.colombini@pilchuckaudubon.org or mail to 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198, Snohomish, WA 98290. Submissions must be received by the fifth of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit.

Monthly mailing party
Newsletter mailing parties are held the third Wednesday of the month. If you'd like to have some fun with other PAS members, contact Judy Lowell at organicjudy@juno.com or 425.353.8150 for more information.

To contact Pilchuck Audubon Society, call 425.252.0926.

The *Profile* is also available at www.pilchuckaudubon.org

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Trip calendar

Check our web site at www.pilchuckaudubon.org for the latest information.

Tuesday, December 2

Silvana Roads

Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Quilceda Village Wal-Mart west of Marysville (I5, exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I5. Pipits, Snowy Owls, falcons, all the winter I.B.J.s. If time allows, we may visit the Port Susan Nature Conservancy site. Pack a lunch.

Leaders: Virginia Clark, 360.435.3750; Art Wait, 360.563.0181

Tuesday, December 9

Lummi Flats

Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Quilceda Village Wal-Mart west of Marysville (I5, exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I5. Lots of waterfowl, and lots of raptors such as Short-eared Owl, Northern Harrier and Rough-legged Hawk. We logged 59 species last November. Pack a lunch.

Leaders: Art Wait, 360.563.0181; Virginia Clark, 360.435.3750

Tuesday, Dec. 16

Port Gamble to Port Townsend

Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Edmonds Marsh (south of West Dayton St., turn left just before the railroad tracks). We'll take the ferry to Kingston, go through Port Gamble and across the Hood Canal floating bridge. On the way, we'll visit Marrowstone Island and Indian Island, with views of Admiralty Inlet. Waterfowl, seabirds and maybe even Orcas. The trip last year was memorable and rewarding. Lunch in a restaurant.

Leaders: Art Wait, 360.563.0181; Virginia Clark, 360.435.3750

Notice to field trip participants: Field trips are open to members and non-members alike. No advance notice required unless otherwise stated in the trip description. Trips go, rain or shine. However, in case of snow or ice, contact trip leader! Bring a sack lunch, beverage, binoculars, scope and field guide if you have them. If not, we'll share. Please, no perfume or cologne. Be prepared to share gas money with carpool drivers. Pets, even leashed, are prohibited on field trips. Please leave them at home.

Last Vaux's Swifts of year spotted in Monroe

By Susie Schaefer, Vice President, Pilchuck Audubon Society

The last Vaux's Swifts of 2008 were seen going in the Frank Wagner Elementary chimney on Oct. 17. Our faithful counters continued to check after that, but no additional swifts have been seen since. During the fall migration, counters tallied 210,565 birds entering the chimney – an increase of 80,000 over the spring count. We do not know all the answers to all the questions, but we have good baseline data for 2008.

We had a fun celebration Oct. 15 and were still wondering when we would see the last of them for this year.

A huge "thank you" to all the people who helped with the 2008 Monroe Swifts project. We have almost \$5000 in our SOS (Save our Swifts) bank account and we haven't done any serious fundraising yet! But, we are not done. We are working on completing the necessary engineering study so we'll have an estimate of what work needs to be done to secure the chimney – and how much it will cost.

And 2009 will be here before we know it. We will be scheduling a community meeting in Monroe near the end of January. We hope that all who helped this year will be back

for 2009 and that lots of other PAS members, community people and friends will join us, too.

What a year with our little friends! Love those Vauxies!!!!

Snow Goose Fest around the corner

The Port Susan Snow Goose and Birding Festival is scheduled for February 28 and March 1, 2009. Please save the date and plan to attend this annual event. We will need lots of volunteers to lead field trips and docent at a couple of birding sites, as well as hosts for our PAS table. This is always an active and fun festival. For more information, visit www.snowgoosefest.org.

Please contact Susie Schaefer at susie.schaefer@comcast.net or 425.771.8165 to volunteer.

Volunteers still needed! Can you help?

Volunteer committee chair

This volunteer is responsible for recruiting, organizing and coordinating volunteers for various PAS activities and events.

In addition, the volunteer chair maintains a master list of PAS volunteers and conducts surveys of the membership to gain an understanding of the skill set available from our group. The chair is also responsible for scheduling and conducting regular committee meetings and training new volunteers.

This volunteer serves on the Pilchuck Audubon Society's Board which meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The position is both fun and rewarding, as it is critical to rallying the membership in support of chapter activities.

For more information, please contact Susie Schaefer at 425.771.8165 or susie.schaefer@pilchuckaudubon.org.

Secretary

This important volunteer serves as an officer on the PAS Executive Committee, attends Board and Executive Committee meetings, takes minutes at the meetings, compiles and distributes the minutes and files them in order to maintain an historical record of PAS business.

This volunteer serves on the Pilchuck Audubon Society's Board which meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

For more information, please contact Susie Schaefer at 425.771.8165 or susie.schaefer@pilchuckaudubon.org.

Birding in the BC Outback: Part 4

By Virginia Clark, with assists from Wilma Bayes and Margaret Bridge

(Editor's note: This is the fourth in a multi-part chronicle of a trip to BC by "three intrepid birdwatchers." We're lucky to get to ride along!)

Day 4: Those Canadians are a tough lot – and they know how to name a lake

On Tuesday, Wilma cooked a wonderful breakfast and the three of us, lathered in mosquito repellent, walked out the long driveway (if you can call a bumpy, lumpy, rutted two-lane a "driveway").

We heard the melodious songs of Hermit Thrushes and got a good look at one. We heard a raucous woodpecker sound and spied a Three-toed Woodpecker feeding babies at a cavity nest. We marked the spot so we knew exactly where it was for future visits.

Further on, we found a small family of Boreal Chickadees. What a welcome to the boreal forest!

We headed out in the truck to visit an 84-year-old lady who lived by herself even further out in the wilderness. On the way, we stopped several times, racking up Yellow Warblers, Yellow-rumped Warblers, Redstarts and Flycatchers.

Dark clouds were rolling in and we heard thunder in the distance. It rained off and on, so the birding wasn't terrific. We did get good looks at a couple of Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Redstarts and a Warbling Vireo.

We finally arrived at the lady's house. She was working outside, wearing a tank top (we were dressed in layers). She



Three-toed Woodpeckers, by Matti Suopajarvi



Boreal Chickadee, by Michael Woodruff

lives by herself with two big roosters, three dogs and 40+ horses, mostly Clydesdales. She goes out in -30 degree weather to feed the animals!

What a hoot to meet her! Her memory is going, and in the 15 minutes we were there, she asked us five times what we were doing. Wilma said that she told us the same information as when Wilma visited her the year before.

Strange custom: she invited us into her house without even knowing who we were. I admired her and hope that she keeps doing well. Margaret admired her biceps, which were unbelievable for age 84. She was in great physical shape. We didn't ask whether she even uses mosquito repellent!

On the way back to the cabin, we stopped at a lake with wetlands and saw a few Greater Yellowlegs in the distance. Though success on previous days had been limited, Margaret finally was able to identify a new flycatcher, an Alder Flycatcher, by its call (with assistance from the trusty iPod). Then we stopped in at Pelican Lake, and true to its name, we found about 20 White Pelicans! After watching a few Black-capped Chickadees and Redstarts, we headed to the cabin.

Tuesday's outhouse sound was two Great Horned Owls!

To be continued ...

Margaret "flush" with excitement over new visitor

And we thought Margaret's Canadian potty stops provided good birding! After returning home from a recent Tuesday birding trip (this one in and around Snohomish), Margaret made a visit to the bathroom.

"As I sat on the throne," she said, "I looked outside the window and spied none other than a Ruffed Grouse. He was just strolling around at the edge of the lawn, near the salmonberry that borders the yard. This is a definite first for me to see in my yard, even given that I am on 5 acres!"

Margaret, you have a unique birding skill!!



Birding highlights

By Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

September 26, 2008-October 25, 2008

Bewick's Wrens were popping up all over the county this month – from as far south as Brier, north to Camano Island. They are easily identified by a longish tail with white corners and a bold white eye stripe. The **Bewick's Wren** has a very complex song somewhat similar to a **Song Sparrow's**, but a little thinner and shriller.

No **Bewick's Wrens** made it to Carole and Larry Beason's Lake Bosworth home, but 35 other species did. They included 6 **American Goldfinches**, 2 **Belted Kingfishers**, 27 **Pine Siskins**, 15 **Red-winged Blackbirds**, a **Western Tanager**, 8 **Canada Geese**, 2 **House Finches**, an **Osprey** and a **Winter Wren**.

Annette Colombini's report from Marysville, near the Cedar Crest Golf Course, included three domestic cats that have been keeping the birds away from her feeders. Her total species count of nine included 2 **Northern Flickers**, 6 **Steller's Jays**, 8 **Dark-eyed Juncos**, 3 **Common Ravens** flying over, 4 **American Crows**, 6 **Black-capped Chickadees**, 3 **Pine Siskins**, a **Bald Eagle** and an **Anna's Hummingbird**.

Three **Pileated Woodpeckers** highlighted Gail Dibernardo's report from Brier. All three woodpeckers were on the suet feeder at the same time. A **Bewick's Wren** also popped up in her backyard along with 6 **California Quail**, 15 **American Robins**, 8 **Dark-eyed Juncos**, a **Bald Eagle**, 2 **Spotted Towhees** (in the birdbath), a **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** and a **Red-Tailed Hawk** for a total species count of 23.

A **Bewick's Wren** was near the top of Hilkka Egtvedt's list from her home in Mukilteo. She also reported 2 **Varied Thrushes**, 10 **Pine Siskins**, 15 **California Quail**, 15 **American Robins** eating Mountain Ash berries, 200+ **American Crows** flying over one evening, 32 **Dark-eyed Juncos**, 3 **Golden-crowned Sparrows**, 10 **Band-tailed Pigeons** and 2 **Pileated Woodpeckers** for a total species count of 24.

Another **Bewick's Wren** made an appearance at Kriss Erickson's Everett location. Also included in her total species count of 10 were 18 **American Robins**, 6 **Dark-eyed Juncos**, 11 **Black-capped Chickadees**, 4 **Steller's Jays**, 7 **House Finches**, 8 **American Crows**, 3 **Song Sparrows**, 12 **Cedar Waxwings** and 3 **Western Gulls** flying over.

Unfortunately, Verna Hisey's Lake Stevens yard has been overrun with feral cats which keep the birds away. Her total species count was only 6 this month which included 4 **Steller's Jays** (which can give cats a bad time), 6 **American Crows** flying overhead, 20+ **House Sparrows**, a **Bald Eagle** and 4 **Black-capped Chickadees**.

The birdfeeders are back up at Shelia and Michael Huber's home in Machias. That little **Bewick's Wren** was spotted again by the Hubers. They also reported 2 **Downy Woodpeckers**, 3 **Dark-eyed Juncos**, 3 **American Goldfinches**, a **Belted Kingfisher**, a **White-crowned Sparrow**, 2 **Purple Finches**, 2 **Spotted Towhees** and 3 **Northern Flickers** for a total species count of 17.

Julie O'Donald's report from Brier included an interesting variety of species including our little **Bewick's Wren**.

She listed a **Varied Thrush**, a **Western Screech Owl**, a **Townsend's Warbler**, a **Killdeer**, a **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, 3 **Golden-crowned Kinglets**, 10 **Bushtits**, 2 **Anna's Hummingbirds** and 6 **American Robins** (eating berries from the Mountain Ash) for a total species count of 20.

Mary Sinker's yard in Stanwood seems to be the place for some great bird watching. Her total species count of 34 included 15 **American Goldfinches**, 14 **Black-capped Chickadees**, 2 **Cedar Waxwings**, 14 **Evening Grosbeaks**, a **Great Blue Heron**, a **Great horned-Owl**, 9 **Pine Siskins**, 11 **Steller's Jays**, 24 **Mourning Doves**, a **Veery**, a **White-throated Sparrow**, 2 **Winter Wrens** (no **Bewick's Wren**) and 5 **Bushtits**.



Bewick's Wren, by Steve Baranoff

Two **Barred Owls** topped Darlene Walker's list in October. Reporting from Camano Island, she also listed 12 **Pine Siskins**, 2 **Bald Eagles**, 2 **Marsh Hawks**, 6 **Dark-eyed Juncos**, a **Rufous Hummingbird**, 6 **American Goldfinches**, 4 **Spotted Towhees**, 10 **Mourning Doves**, 2 **Red-breasted Nuthatches** and 20 **Canada Geese** flying over for a total species count of 23.

The **Snow Geese** are coming back. Dick Vanderhoff reported 250+ **Snow Geese** flying over his home near Port Susan Bay, along with 75 **Western Grebes**, 25 **Double-crested Cormorants**, a total of 75 **Black-capped** and **Chestnut-backed Chickadees** at the feeders, 4 **Bald Eagles** flying in a circle, 15 **Bonaparte Gulls**, 3 **Ring-billed Gulls**, 2 **Brown Creepers** and 2 **White-breasted Nuthatches** for a total species count of 11.

Nothing unusual to report from my Marysville home. The newest visitor to my yard would be a **Mourning Dove** that stopped by for a few days. My total species count of 20 included 18 **American Robins**, 16 **California Quail** in the yard and woods, 12 **Evening Grosbeaks**, a **Black-headed Grosbeak**, 300-400 **European Starlings** along the wires and fields along 100th, a **Common Raven**, 12 **Dark-eyed Juncos**, 4 **Pine Siskins**, 4 **Northern Flickers** and 2 **Downy Woodpeckers**.

Dr. Hewston of Humboldt State University is asking for our help again for the Thanksgiving Day Bird Count on Nov. 27. It's easy: pick an area 15 feet in diameter – somewhere where you'll see a lot of birds, like around a feeder – and count for one hour on Thanksgiving Day. Your final count should show how many species entered the circle and the total number of each. If you would like a form, I can provide it.

If you are interested in adding to *Birding Highlights* or would like additional information included in the report, please contact me at 425-750-8125 or pricemara@clearwire.net.

Smart Growth report

By Kristin Kelly, Smart Growth Director

Thanks to all of you who have helped by signing a petition, emailing or testifying at public hearings on the three important land use issues I've been working on this year. The Fully Contained Community (FCC) moratorium was adopted for six months so the council can re-examine the codes and hopefully consider eliminating FCCs as a planning tool. The public hearings on the Urban Residential Design Standard (URDS) code and the Rural Cluster Subdivision (RCS) ordinance updates have been extended to January 7, so the council will continue to take your written comments on the amendments. You can access the documents the council is considering here: www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/departments/council/about/meeting_calendar/long_term_calendar.htm.

TogetherGreen

TogetherGreen is program sponsored by Toyota and Audubon that will provide \$20 million for conservation efforts (www.togethergreen.org) over the next five years. There are three parts to the five-year program: conservation grants, volunteer program and the Conservation Leadership Program. I first considered applying for a grant for the Smart Growth program. Instead, the PAS Board urged me to apply for the Leadership Program. I am happy to report that I was one of 40 selected country-wide from a field of more than 100 candidates. As part of the program, my fellow participants and I gathered for a week of training and networking in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, late last month.

It was a magical, wonderful experience and an honor to be part of this group of emerging leaders in the conservation movement. The financial support will help provide the resources needed to lead our membership and others in Snohomish County towards smarter, more sustainable land use and environmental stewardship practices in an effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect Puget Sound, our water basins and wildlife habitats.

The TogetherGreen leadership fellows, facilitators and speakers were inspirational and knowledgeable. We received outstanding training, advice and encouragement from experts in the field of communications, community building, diversity training, as well as hearing directly from representatives of Toyota, a corporate environmental leader. I will share more of what I learned – and will continue to learn – as the program progresses.

For now, I want to share a bit about the other participants who are working for a better world.

Avery Anderson, Quivira Coalition, is working to improve water quality and supply in the Dry Cimarron River Basin and outreach to the local ranching community through on-site volunteer educational workshops. **James Barnes**, University of Vermont, is working with The Land Stewardship program and UT students on a high school mentoring program.

Eric Beck, Audubon Oklahoma, is working on an IBA program for the Prairie Chicken and Black-capped Vireo, as well as a fundraising project to provide support to the Red Slough IBA. **Penelope Bodry-Sanders**, Lemur Conservation Foundation, is working on a providing teacher conservation workshops at the Mianatra Center for Lemur Studies.

Marcelo Bonta, Center for Diversity and the Environment and Young Environmental Professionals of Color, is working on Diversity in the Conservation Movement Forum, a series of dialogues that will examine diversity issues in Portland's conservation movement. **Rosalie Borzik**, Maine Seabird Restoration Program, is working to improve nesting habitat for common terns.



TogetherGreen Conservation Leadership Program participants, including PAS's Kristin Kelly

Michael Burger, Audubon New York, is working on Conservation Alliance for the east coast and the state's IBA program.

Paola Gabriela Castaneda, Audubon Center at Debs Park, is working on a junior naturalist (teen) mentoring program with youth from Latino neighborhoods, bilingual education and outreach and restoration of Arroyo Seco habitat.

Barbara Charry, Maine Audubon, is working to integrate road ecology and transportation planning for reduced wildlife mortality, habitat loss and fragmentation. **Eric Clough**, Cape Arago Audubon Society, is working on habitat conservation and shorebird sanctuary in Coos Bay, Oregon.

Lorelei Costa, Audubon Alaska, is working on conservation and restoration program for wetland IBA.

Tony DeFalco, Marine Fish Conservation Network, is working on a green jobs project that trains and employs Mexican-Americans and Latinos in a program to weatherize and equip homes in low-income areas of Portland with renewable energy features.

Ana Flores, Kettle Pond Visitor Center, USFWS, is working on a green cafe film and lecture series for teens in Wood River, Rhode Island. **Curt Gervich**, Virginia Tech School for Public and International Affairs, is working on a conflict management workshop and supplementary guidebook for individuals and organizations in conservation networks in Appalachia.

Christine Hannen, Holston River Soil and Water Cons District, is working on providing rain barrels and rain harvesting in rural communities in southwest Virginia. **Thomas Hissong**, Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, is working on a school program for monthly field trips and science investigations.

Heath Keirstead, Benton Soil and Water Conservation District, is training volunteers to perform invasive plant audits on 100 properties in Corvallis, Oregon. **Dan Kunkle**, Lehigh Gap Nature Center, is working to develop a nature center and programs on a 750-acre refuge in Pennsylvania.

(See "Smart Growth" on page 7)

Smart Growth ...

(continued from page 6)

David Lamfrom, National Parks Conservation Association, is working to protect the threatened Desert Tortoise. **Marian Langan**, Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center, is engaging faith-based groups in conservation action in Nebraska.

Drew Lanham, Clemson University Forestry and Matural Resources, is working to promote sustainable land management and conservation planning with African-American landowners in South Carolina.

Amy Meide, St. Johns County, Florida, is working to restore the upland and riparian zone habitats at the publicly owned St. Johns County Golf Course.

Sean Miller, Earth Day Network, is working to install photovoltaic solar panels at a low-income school dedicated to energy conservation in Washington, DC. **Liana Pena**, Audubon Texas, is working on science and technology curriculum in urban schools.

Robin Powell, Nevada Audubon, is working on land and water issues. **Kim Ramirez**, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie and El Valor (CBO), is working on a restoration project in tallgrass prairie and education in urban Chicago neighborhoods.

Md. Mamunur Rashid, University of Southern Indiana, is working to engage Evansville residents on the importance and benefits of water conservation.

Lewis Reed, Livermore Area Park District Ranger, is working on interpretative seminars and field trips to educate the community about grasslands and grassland restoration in Illinois.

Jillian Rubio, Audubon Center at Prospect Park in Brooklyn, is

working to engage teen skateboarders in stewardship of the park. **Keith Russell**, Pennsylvania Audubon, is working on a volunteer monitoring effort to collect data during spring and fall migration in 2009.

Barbara Sacerdote, Audubon Washington, is working on Audubon Washington's Guide to Bird and Community Conservation on an interactive web site. **Jennifer Seitz**, University of Florida, is working on outreach programs and urban forestry, with working class African-Americans.

Jim Shallow, Audubon Vermont, is developing and implementing a conservation plan for a 1000-acre IBA and watershed. **Juli Speck**, Girl Scouts of Black Hawk Council, is working on Prairie Restoration at Black Hawk Council's Echo Valley Property.

Iain Stenhouse, NAS/IBA program, is working on IBA assessment training in Maine. **Vashti Supplee**, Audubon Arizona, is working on conservation training to high schools and two community colleges.

Stephanie Swaim, Tahoma Audubon Society, is working on school ecology club and volunteer corps. **Gloria Villegas-Cardoza**, Massachusetts Audubon, is working on an urban environmental education initiative to develop sustainable conservation communities in urban areas.

Dawn York, Coastal Planning and Engineering of North Carolina, Cape Fear River Watch, is working on the preservation of the 2100-acre Eagles Island, a significant natural heritage area.

Election ...

(continued from page 1)

protect our environment and stimulate the economy, creating up 5 million new green jobs.

Congress should pass legislation providing significant incentives for development of renewable energy such as a strong Renewables Portfolio Standard and a long-term extension of the Production Tax Credit, and pass significant legislation to address global warming with a comprehensive cap-and-trade program.

The new administration and congress must lead a transformation in American energy production and use through investments in energy efficiency and clean energy technologies. This can minimize the fluctuation of gas prices while protecting our beaches, coastal ecosystems and the Alaskan landscape from the threats of oil and gas drilling.

Endangered species conservation: We'll work with the administration to secure reversal of the Bush administration's weakening of the Endangered Species Act, such as the controversial decision to allow agencies to self-consult regarding the impacts of federally-approved projects on endangered species.

Congress should pass new tax incentives to encourage private landowners to work toward recovery of endangered species.

Bird and habitat conservation: The administration and the congress should reinvest in the National Wildlife Refuge System and address the unacceptable \$3.5 billion maintenance backlog crippling this critical tool for conservation.

Congress should pass legislation to conserve neotropical migratory birds and address the steep declines in America's common birds that are disappearing from parks, farms and backyards across the country.

Ecosystem restoration: The administration and the congress should fund significant new restoration projects to improve the status of America's great natural ecosystems: the Mississippi River, the Everglades, Long Island Sound and the Great Lakes.

Your support, along with Audubon's unique chapter, state, and national presence, will enable us to seize this rare opportunity for real conservation progress in the weeks and months ahead. Please continue your grassroots advocacy to hold our leaders accountable to their conservation promises.

To share your vision for the future of the US with President-elect Obama, visit www.change.gov/page/s/yourvision.

January program meeting Fri., Jan. 9, 7 p.m.

Port Gardner Bay Osprey update

The latest on the plan for pilings for our local Ospreys.

Community Wildlife Certification

Our program chair will discuss the program, currently in process on Camano and in Edmonds. It's an exciting opportunity for communities, birds and other wildlife.

Everett Firefighters Hall
2411 Hewitt Avenue, Everett

We're pleased to be able to use the Firefighters Hall for the remainder of 2008. It's a fine facility in a great location.



We do need volunteers to help clean up after program meetings. If you're able, please lend a hand.

For more information, call 425.252.0926

Watch www.pilchuckaudubon.org
for the most up-to-date information!

Audubon membership information

Joint membership in National Audubon Society (NAS) and Pilchuck Audubon Society (PAS) includes National Audubon Society's quarterly magazine *Audubon* and Pilchuck Audubon Society's *Profile* newsletter for one year. Cost is \$20 for an Introductory Membership or \$35 for renewals. When you join National Audubon Society, you automatically become a member of Pilchuck Audubon Society.

However, PAS receives none of your national dues to support its programs. Local membership in Pilchuck Audubon Society includes a one-year subscription (10 issues) to Pilchuck Audubon Society's *Profile* newsletter. Cost is \$25. A special limited income category is also available for \$16.

Local PAS membership

- New member\$25
- Renewal\$25
- Lifetime PAS member..... \$1000
 - 10 monthly payments of \$100
 - 4 quarterly payments of \$250
 - 1 payment of \$1000
- Donation \$ _____

Make check payable to:
Pilchuck Audubon Society

Mail your check and this form to:
PAS Membership Chair
1429 Avenue D, PMB 198
Snohomish, WA 98290

NAS membership

(includes PAS membership)

- Introductory membership \$20

Make check payable to:
National Audubon Society

Mail your check and this form to:
PAS Membership Chair
1429 Avenue D, PMB 198
Snohomish, WA 98290

NAS renewal

(includes PAS renewal)

- Renewal \$35

Make check payable to:
National Audubon Society

Mail your check and this form to:
NAS, Membership Data Center
POB 52529
Boulder, CO 80322-2529

- I'd like to save PAS money and read the *Profile* on the web at www.pilchuckaudubon.org. Please don't mail it to me. I've included my email address at right so you can let me know when each issue is available.
- Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.
- I am interested in the Conservation Committee.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____