Volume 46, Number 8 www.pilchuckaudubon.org August 2019

September Program Meeting at **Puget Sound Birdfest**

Understanding Shorebirds, the Miracle of Migration is a presentation about the epic migrations of shorebirds.

Six of the thirty-eight common shorebirds found in Washington are discussed as we explore the transocean migration of Bar-tailed Godwits, Pacific Golden-



Plovers, Sanderling, and other birds that cross the majority of the Pacific Ocean. We'll look at where they migrate, why they migrate, and how they are able to travel so far.

These global migrants require global conservation and climate change solutions. In a effort to understand their remarkable journeys we need to look beyond the North American borders and see where shorebirds spend most of their lives.

Tickets for the presentation go on sale at 6:00 a.m. on August 1 (https://www.eventbrite.com/e/puget-sound-bird-festkeynote-presentation-tickets-64435449163).

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 p.m. UNCLAIMED SEATS WILL BE RELEASED 10 MINUTES PRIOR TO THE START OF THE PROGRAM. A

NO PROGRAM MEETING **IN AUGUST**

Join us for the September Program Meeting

Friday, September 13, 2018 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. **Edmonds Plaza Room** 650 Main Street, Edmonds

PUGET SOUND BIRD FEST

Understanding Shorebirds, the Miracle of Migration

with

Tim Boyer, Professional Photographer **Keynote Speaker**

Tim Boyer is an award-winning nature photographer. His images have been published in many bird and nature magazines. He is a full-time photographer and a graduate of Seattle Audubon's Master Birder Program. He enjoys sharing his knowledge of photography and birds through workshops and presentations. Shorebirds are his favorite family group of birds, and he spends a lot of weekends on the Washington Coast. 🙎

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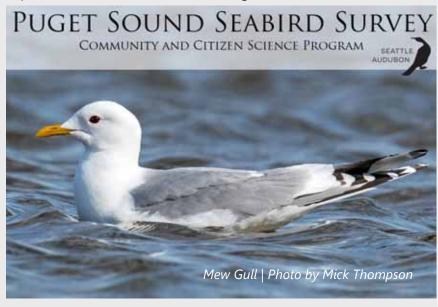


GO BIRDING AND CONTRIBUTE TO SCIENCE!

Are seabirds in the southern Salish Sea increasing or decreasing in numbers? Which species are changing their range? Help us find out. The Puget Sound Seabird Survey (PSSS) is a community and citizen science project managed by Seattle Audubon that empowers volunteer birdwatchers to gather valuable data on

wintering seabird populations across the southern Salish Sea.

You can contribute to this vital seabird science by joining the thirteenth season of this exciting project. We are now recruiting enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers to help us monitor the status of our local wintering seabirds. Training on survey methodology will be provided at multiple locations throughout Puget Sound from mid-September until the first week of October. Volunteers ideally should be able to identify Puget Sound's seabird species and be available on the first Saturday of each month, October



through April, to conduct a 30-minute survey. But, if determining between Common and Barrow's Goldeneye is a challenge, we'll team you up with more knowledgeable surveyors. To help us determine each volunteer's seabird identification skills, take our quick, fun <u>Seabird ID quiz</u>.

Learn more, including training locations, at www.seabirdsurvey.org and email Toby Ross, Senior Science Manager, tobyr@seattleaudubon.org, if you would like more information or to take part. p

About Pilchuck Audubon Society

The Pilchuck Audubon Profile, official newsletter of Pilchuck Audubon Society, is published monthly.

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 newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org or mail to 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198, Snohomish, WA 98290. Submissions must be received by the 21st of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit.

To contact Pilchuck Audubon Society, call 425.610.8027.

The monthly Profile is available online at

www.pilchuckaudubon.org

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Birdathon Photo Contest Winners!

All of the amazing photos entered in our 2019 Birdathon Photo Contest were given enthusiastic oohs and ahhs at the July membership meeting. Our chapter is fortunate to have such talent among our members, and we are grateful to our photographers for sharing their gifts. Choosing the winning entries was very difficult! Congratulations to our winners.

Washington Big Month

Winning Entry: Marbled Godwit by Rex Guichard Runner-up: Bald Eagle with Prey by Bill Fulton

Big World, Big Year

Winning Entry: Northern Hawk Owl #2 by Rex Guichard

Runner-up: Pileated Woodpecker by Bill Fulton

Photos on Page 4



2019 Birdathon
Washington Big Month
Winning Entry

Marbled Godwit
by Rex Guichard

2019 Birdathon Washington Big Month Runner-up Bald Eagle with Prey by Bill Fulton



More 2019 BIRDATHON PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

2019 Birdathon Big World, Big Year Winning Entry Northern Hawk Owl #2 by Rex Guichard



2019 Birdathon Big World, Big Year Runner-up Pileated Woodpecker by Bill Fulton

Birdathon Success!

Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to the success of our annual fund-raising effort. Special recognition must go to **Hilkka Egtvedt** who single-handedly raised more than \$2,200 and sighted 120 species of birds across all corners of the state.

Special thanks also go to our two fabulous Birdathon team challengers, *Bird in Edgewise* and *Counting Crows*, who contributed to our success.

Your contribution to this fundraiser will go to support organizational costs, as well as the projects and programs that help birds thrive and keep the public engaged with conservation and environmental advocacy. Thank you for your support!



TRIP CALENDAR

Check our website, <u>www.pilchuckaudubon.org</u>, for the latest information



Tuesday, August 6 Marysville Area

Meet at 8:00 AM at the Quilceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd (next to I-5). We may bird the Marysville Wastewater Treatment Facility, Jennings Park, Harborview Park, and whatever else we can discover. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Saturday, August 10 Magnuson Park, Seattle

Meet at 7:30 AM at the Lynnwood Transit Center, which is in the vicinity of I-5 Exit 181; come to Bay D1, which is near the southwest corner of the parking lot. We''ll carpool to Magnuson Park. For anyone who may wish to meet us at the park, please contact the trip leader for more information. Trip leader: Douglas Resnick, 425-776-4811

(cell: 206-617-0019), dresnick1@comcast.net

Tuesday, August 13 Stevens Pass Area

Meet at 6:00 a.m. at Monroe Park & Ride on Highway 2, one-half mile west of the fairgrounds. Trying for summer birding success at higher altitudes. Will visit the Old Cascade Highway, maybe the ski slopes, Smithbrook Road, Fish Lake, and Lake Wenatchee. Warblers, grouse, sparrows, flycatchers, ravens, nutcrackers, chipmunk, and hare. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750.

Tuesday, August 20 Southern Whidbey Island

Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Eastmont Park & Ride, I-5 Exit 189, east side, aiming for the 8:00 a.m. ferry from Mukilteo. Lots of waterfowl and shorebirds. Crocket Lake is exciting, and the scenery is gorgeous. Pack a lunch. Trip leaders: Wilma Bayes (360-629-2028) and Virginia Clark (360-435-3750).

Sunday, August 25 North Bend-Rattlesnake Lake

Meet at 2:00 p.m. at the Cedar River Watershed Education Center (17905 Cedar Falls Rd SE, North Bend). Please join the Pilchuck Audubon Society, Academia Latina, and the North Sound Birders' Meetup for a family picnic and birdwalk at Rattlesnake Lake. The Watershed Education Center provides an excellent (and truly fun!) opportunity for students of all ages to learn all about Seattle's drinking water supply. From Seattle take I-90 east to Exit 32 (436th Ave SE/Cedar Falls Road SE). Go south (right) on Cedar Falls Road for 4 miles. The Center is located near the end of the road, past Rattlesnake Lake (on right) and Iron Horse State Park (on left). You may visit

http://www.seattle.gov/utilities/environment-and-

conservation/our-watersheds/cedar-riverwatershed/education-center. Bring a picnic lunch, hat, sunscreen, sturdy walking shoes, bug spray, water, and binoculars if you have them. Open to all. No dogs.

Trip Leader: Jonathan Blubaugh, 425-244-7633. aracfi@msn.com.

Tuesday, August 27

Fir Island

Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Quilceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd (next to I-5). Shorebirds, eagles, hawks, owls, falcons, songbirds, and surprises. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750.

Tuesday, September 3

Samish Flats

Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Quilceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd (next to I-5). Want to see what this area offers in late summer? Come along. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750.

Saturday, September 7 Boeing Creek & Shoreview Parks Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the northeast corner of Boeing Creek Park in Shoreline. Park in the area provided beside the street on the west side of 3rd Avenue NW, just south of NW 175th Street. Note that some maps label these contiguous parks simply as Shoreview Park. Wear boots! Trip leader: Douglas Resnick, 425-776-4811 (cell: 206-617-0019), dresnick1@comcast.net.

Web Help Needed for Save Our Swifts Website



It's Vaux's Swift season...but sadly our website dedicated to engaging the public with these amazing little birds and the on-going need for conservation efforts has fallen to neglect. If you have a few hours to give and enjoy crafting stories and articles to post, please consider helping out with some volunteer website support.

We'll offer the training needed to help you post information and images across this very simple and basic website. Please contact Cindy Easterson at president@pilchuckaudubon.org if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

REPORT: Bird Walk Beside Snohomish River, 6 July 2019

by Douglas Resnick, Trip Leader

Suku, Lisa, Terry, Sue, Jonathan, Judy, and I met on a cloudy morning at the Everett Mall. We carpooled to Field's Riffle, then to Riverview Wildlife Refuge. We observed a total of 49 species, as recorded on eBird. Thanks to Suku for photographs!

Field's Riffle is a site south of the Snohomish River. A trail that begins at Lowell Snohomish River Road leads north to a dike that parallels the river; parking at the trailhead is limited. Both the trail and the dike provide good opportunities for birding. On this morning, we saw and heard a variety of birds: Red-winged Blackbirds and European Starlings in the fields, Killdeer and Turkey Vulture in the





sky, finches and sparrows in the shrubs beside the trail and along the dike, both Anna's and Rufous Hummingbird among the flowers, and Mourning Dove and Willow Flycatcher in the trees. A special treat was a group of Lazuli Bunting at the edge of the field west of the trail. In addition, we observed a harbor seal with a salmon in its mouth in the river near the eastern part of the dike.

Riverview Wildlife Refuge, partly owned by Pilchuck Audubon, is on the other side of the river. Our route took us along a loop that goes around most of the refuge, departing from and returning to 2nd Street in the City of Snohomish. While walking under the

Highway 9 overpass, we observed several Cliff Swallow nests attached to the underside of the overpass, one occupied. Several related species flew over the refuge proper: Tree, Violet-green, and Barn swallows. Also sighted in the air were Ospreys and Red-tailed Hawks. Although the water in the treatment ponds was empty of birds, the waters on the west side of the refuge held Wood Ducks and Mallards. In the waters, and in trees beside them, we also found numerous Great Blue Herons. All along the route, we were serenaded by Common Yellowthroats.

We finished our birding around 1:00 p.m., after which we reconvened at Buzz Inn Steakhouse for lunch.



BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator May 26, 2019 to June 25, 2019

Carole and Larry Beason reporting from Lake Bosworth stated that the number of birds for the month of June have dropped. They are hoping that it picks up in July. Their total species count of 39 included 3 American Goldfinch, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, a Bald Eagle over the lake, 6 Barn Swallow, 1 Belted Kingfisher, 5 Black-headed Grosbeak, 22 Canada Goose in the lake, a Common Raven flying over, a Fox Sparrow on the patio, an Osprey over the lake, a Pileated Woodpecker, 8 Purple Finch, 2 Red-breasted Sapsucker, 12+ Red-winged Blackbird, 3 Rufous Hummingbird, a Swainson's Thrush, 2 Tree Swallow, 6 Violet-green Swallow, 3 Western Tanager, and 4 Northern Shoveler.

Reporting from Mukilteo, Hilkka Egtvedt listed a total of 25 species. Her report included 6 California Quail (includes 4 juveniles), 3 Anna's Hummingbird, 2 Rufous Hummingbird, 3 Hairy Woodpecker, a Pileated Woodpecker, heard an Olive-sided Flycatcher, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, 4 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, 11 European Starling (gobbling as much food as possible at the feeders), 2 Western Tanager, 5 Black-headed Grosbeak, a Song Sparrow, a White-crowned Sparrow, 5 Purple Finch, 2 Pine Siskin, and an American Goldfinch.

Kriss Erickson's report from Everett listed 4 Dark-eyed Junco, 8 American Robin, 2 Bewick's Wren, 18 Bushtit, 7 Northwestern Crow, 9 Western Gull, 2 Mourning Dove, a Varied Thrush, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 3 Northern Flicker, 3 Song Sparrow, 5 Bandtailed Pigeon, 3 Anna's Hummingbird, and 3 male and 2 female Mallard Duck with 12 ducklings, for a total species count of 19.

Mary Sinker had a total species count of 40 for this month. Reporting from Stanwood, she listed 11 American Goldfinch, 9 American Robin with 2 juveniles and 2 in the nest, 2 Bald Eagle, 2 Barn Swallow, 11 Black-capped Chickadee, 9 Black-headed Grosbeak, 4 Brown-headed Cowbird, 4 Cedar Waxwing, 7 Chestnut-backed Chickadee (included 5 juveniles), a Black-throated Gray Warbler, 2 Cooper's Hawk (the male caught a Chickadee at the feeder), a Great-Blue Heron, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 8 House Finch, 18 Mourning Dove, an Olive-sided Flycatcher, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4 Red-winged Blackbird, 5 Rufous Hummingbird, 12 Steller's Jay, 8 Tree Swallow, a Willow Flycatcher, a Wilson's Warbler, and 2 Pacific Wren.

My report from Marysville includes 7 American Crow, 3 American Goldfinch, 4 American Robin, 3 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Dark-eyed Junco, 4 House Finch, 3 Mourning Dove, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4 Spotted Towhee, 2 Song Sparrow, 9 Steller's Jay, 2 Pileated Woodpecker, a Yellow Warbler in the woods, 8 Black-headed Grosbeak, 2 Purple Finch, a Western Tanager, and a White-crowned Sparrow, a total species count of 24.

Dan Stump from Everett notified me of a colony of Western Scrub Jay he spotted. I went over to the location to verify that they were Scrub Jays. The neighbors verified that the colony is growing each year.

If you are interested in participating in our Backyard Birding count, please email me at pricemara1@gmail.com or leave a message on my cell phone at (425) 750-8125. pricemara1@gmail.com or leave a

UPCOMING EVENTS, CLASSES, AND FESTIVALS FARTHER AFIELD

Sept 20-22, 2019

montereybaybirdingfestival@gmail.com

Monterey Bay Birding Festival

Watsonville, CA

Alabama Coastal BirdFest Oct 2-5, 2019 alabamacoastalbirdfest@gmail.com Spanish Fort, AL **Cozumel Bird Festival** Oct 11-13, 2019 Cozumel Island, Quintana Roo, Mexico Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/Cozumel-Birding-Club-251773881695339/ or email cozumelbirding club@gmail.com Oct 17-20, 2019 Cape May Fall Festival Cape May, NJ 609-246-3581 https://njaudubon.org/nja-events/cape-may-fall-festival/ **Hawaii Island Festival of Birds** Oct 25-28, 2019 info@birdfesthawaii.org Kailua-Kona, HI Contact: 808-331-3655 **Black-necked Crane Festival** Nov 11, 2019 Gantey Valley, Bhutan Contact: Karma Jamtsho info@incredible-bhutan.travel/birdcutia@gmail.com **Azores Birdwatching Arts Festival** Dec 11-21, 2019 Açores, Pico Island abwafestival@gmail.com Contact: Terry Costa +351-963639996 **Pilchuck Audubon Society Membership Information** Support your local Audubon chapter by becoming a member. PAS dues are tax deductible (consult your tax professional for details). The PAS tax ID number is 91-6183664. □ New Member\$28 ☐ Renewal......\$28 ☐ Lifetime Member......\$1,000 ☐ 10 monthly payments of \$100 ☐ 4 quarterly payments of \$250 **□** 1 payment of \$1,000 □ Donation.....\$ My employer will match my contribution My employer's gift-matching form is enclosed with my contribution Make checks payable to Pilchuck Audubon Society Mail to: Pilchuck Audubon Society 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198 Snohomish, WA 98290-1742 Address City _____ State ___ ZIP ____ Phone _____ E-mail Send me these via e-mail (check all that apply & include your e-mail address above): Profile Newsletter Program Announcements Action Alerts Pilchuck Audubon Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable corporation registered

with the Washington Secretary of State. Your contributions are tax deductible.

Upcoming Events!

September 7, 2019 4pm till dusk

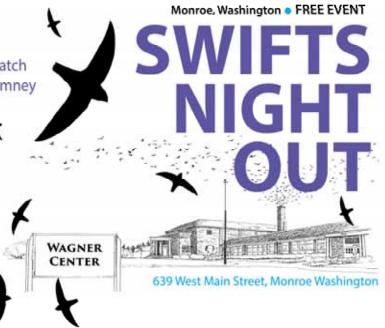
Celebrate the Vaux's Swift migration and watch thousands of birds come to roost in the chimney at Wagner Center.

FREE PARKING: Parking is available at Monroe
City Hall, Frank Wagner Elementary, ADA parking
will be available.

DINNER and SNACK OPTIONS: Feed the family at our Fund-raising Wrap Sandwich Counter. **Also available** - Hotdogs, desserts, beverages and other snacks.

ACTIVITIES: Children's Games and Crafts, Wildlife Education Booths, Vaux's Swift Theatre, Swift Headbands. ...and of course the

Swifts!





Please join us for this special event that will bring Snohomish County local producers and guest chefs together in celebration of our county's birds and wildlife.

October 22, 2019, 6:00 - 8:30 pm Floral Hall in Forest Park, Everett

This special fund-raising event will help support all the great work of Pilchuck Audubon Society, which includes our efforts to conserve local bird habitat, forest protections, supporting our Smart Growth Program, education, and field trips. Since 1972, Pilchuck Audubon Society has been Snohomish County's and Camano Island's Champion of the Environment.

The Feast this year will include *small plate cuisines from some of our local chefs*, featuring wines by *Silent Owl Winery*, followed by a presentation on owls by *Paul Bannick*, *award winning author and wildlife photographer*. Cost is \$65.00 per person.

RSVP to Kristin Kelly at edpas2016@gmail.com. You can pay one of two ways: credit card by visiting our website at pilchuckaudubon.org. Navigate to our secure on-line donate page. Type in amount (\$65.00 per person) and select "Feast on the Farm" from the drop-down menu before including your payment information. OR by check made out to Pilchuck Audubon Society, and mail to Feast in the Forest, Pilchuck Audubon Society, 1429 Avenue D, #198, Snohomish, WA 98290.

