

Volume 46, Number 5 www.pilchuckaudubon.org May 2019

# No Friday Evening Program in May

Our May program will be an outside excursion—a family-friendly field trip to Wiley Slough, more formally known as the Headquarters Unit of the Skagit Wildlife Area. Situated on the southeast corner of Fir Island in the Skagit River delta, this tidal marshland is one of the best birding locations in the Puget Sound area. In addition to the numerous waterfowl and shorebirds, this site is home to nesting Bald Eagles and Tree Swallows. Other birds less commonly seen in our area, such as Black Phoebes and Yellow-headed Blackbirds, have also been observed here recently.

The excursion will begin with a walking tour led by Belinda Rotton, Manager of the Skagit Wildlife Area. She has worked at this location for more than a decade and will talk about the history of the WDFW's conservation work in the area and current efforts to develop a new long-term management plan for all the units of the Skagit

Wildlife Area, from Leque Island and Skagit Bay properties to reserves in the Upper Skagit and the Samish Flats.



Birders at Wiley Slough

The trail is ADA

accessible for most of its length; participants will be able

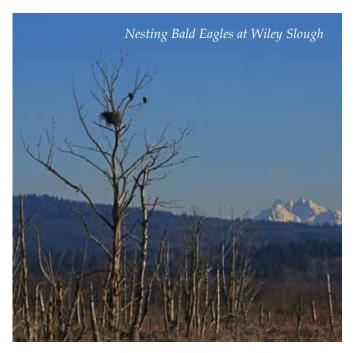
# In this issue

Backyard Birding Report7	Conservation Report 4
Birdathon 20193	Help Wanted 6
Birding Farther Afield8	Remembering Judy Chapman 2
Birding Trip Calendar5	Thank You, Terry 4
Birding Trip Report7	World Migratory Bird Day 5

May Program

# Field Trip to Wiley Slough Saturday, May 11, 2019

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Skagit Wildlife Area
21961 Wylie Road
Mount Vernon, WA (map)



to choose their own distance, from 1 mile to 3 miles round trip. A limited number of binoculars and spotting scopes will be available for shared use. An optional bring-your-own-lunch picnic will be held afterward. Please note that a Discover Pass is required. If you have any questions, contact Jed Holmes for details, <a href="mailto:habitat@pilchuckaudubon.org">habitat@pilchuckaudubon.org</a>, 360-421-8423. <a href="mailto:habitat@pilchuckaudubon.org">habitat@pilchuckaudubon.org</a>, 360-421-8423. <a href="mailto:habitat@pilchuckaudubon.org">habitat@pilchuckaudubon.org</a>,

# Remembering Judy Chapman

by Cindy Easterson

On March 31, 2019 Pilchuck Audubon lost a valued volunteer and supporter. Judith "Judy" Barbara Chapman was one of those special people whose diligent volunteer efforts kept the organization humming. For many years, Judy was the heart and hands behind the important task of acknowledging financial contributions to PAS.

For me, personally, Judy was an inspiration for her legacy of volunteer commitment across multiple organizations and causes. Despite the constraints of muscular dystrophy, Judy remained active and engaged, living a life that ensured a better world because of her passionate care.

Judy was a graduate of Wheaton College and earned a master's degree from University of Denver. She worked for the City of Bellevue and King County as a senior legislative analyst before retiring and moving to Camano Island. She was active with the Friends of Camano Island Parks (FOCIP), served many years as treasurer of the League of Women Voters of Snohomish County, and was

a member and supporter of many organizations, including Pilchuck Audubon Society and Old Dog Haven. She moved to Edmonds, WA, in 2015. Judy loved being in the forest with the trees. Hiking and overnights in the Cascades gave her great joy and renewed and refreshed her spirit.

This Earth was precious to her, and she wanted so much for it to continue to be there for people. A celebration of life gathering for Judy will be held on June 30, 2019, at 1:00 p.m., at the Center for Urban Horticulture. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a memorial donation to the North



Cascades Institute, Old Dog Haven, or an environmental/conservation organization of your choice.



# 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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

Copyright © 2019 Pilchuck Audubon Society

## **Board of Directors**

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Conservation
Membership
Avian Science
Development
Members at Large

Judy Hall.......treasurer@pilchuckaudubon.org
Richard Smith.....secretary@pilchuckaudubon.org
Allen Gibbs.....conservation@pilchuckaudubon.org
Jim Beneteau .....membership@pilchuckaudubon.org
Open .....develop@pilchuckaudubon.org
Open .....develop@pilchuckaudubon.org
Laurel Cheap ... classroom.awards@pilchuckaudubon.org

Cynthia Easterson ....... president@pilchuckaudubon.org

Terry Nightingale .. vice-president@pilchuckaudubon.org

Consultant

#### **Committee Chairs**

Bird Sightings
Citizen Science Coord.
Communications
Conservation Awards
Donations
Education
Field Trips
Forest Practices
Hospitality
Newsletter Editor
Programs
Volunteer Coordinator
Webmaster

Jed Holmes.....habitat@pilchuckaudubon.org

Terry Nightingale ...... webmaster@pilchuckaudubon.org

## Staff

Executive Director/Development Director......Open
Smart Growth Director ......Open

# **MAY IS BIRDATHON MONTH**

It is not too late to participate!!! Consider the many ways you can participate and sign up today.

Birdathon is Pilchuck Audubon's largest fund-raising event of the year. It works like most "a-thons"—participants solicit pledges for some kind of action—in this case, for the number of bird species spotted during a specific time. So have fun! Have a "Big Day" with your friends!

Don't miss this opportunity to experience incredible spring birding, contribute to the financial support of PAS, and spread the word to friends and family about the vital work we do.

- 1. Check out the PAS website for Birdathon rules and basics, <a href="http://tiny.cc/Birdathon">http://tiny.cc/Birdathon</a>.
- 2. Whether you participate in the team or an individual category, please let me know (president@pilchuckaudubon.org) that you have joined the fun. This will:
  - a. Earn you a mention on our Birdathon website and announcements so that people can support your efforts with pledges.
  - b. Trigger a FREE gift of "Birds of Snohomish County" be sent to you for bolstering your birding activities.
- 3. **NEW THIS YEAR!** For both the team and individual competition categories, include a youth, age 12 to 18, along with you when you bird; send in a picture of your birding excursion, and **earn 5 extra species points** for helping to engage our younger generation.

# Reprinted from April 2019 Profile

# PILCHUCK AUDUBON SOCIETY'S 2019 BIRDATHON

Bird throughout the month of May for a **BIG Month total** or select a **24-hour BIG Day event between May 16 and May 19, 2019** to support this year's PAS BIRDATHON. Have fun AND raise money to help protect birds, wildlife, and the habitats they need across our region.

What is Birdathon? Birdathon is the uniquely Audubon way to help protect native birds. Everyone is welcome—expert birders, casual birdwatchers, and beginners can all find a TEAM or an EVENT that gets them out across the landscape during the best time of the year to bird.

Like a walk-a-thon, Birdathon participants, or "Birdathoners," collect pledges from friends, family members, and coworkers for finding and counting bird species. It's competitive but open for any level of birdwatcher. Join a team, lead a team, or bird individually. The money raised goes to protect native animals and their habitat through our conservation work, advocacy and education projects, and programs.

# There are four ways to participate.

1. TEAM COMPETITION: Teams can be from one to four people. They will choose a 24-hour period between May 16 and May 19 to see as many species within Snohomish County and Camano Island as possible.



- 2. BIG SIT: Teams can be from one to four people. They will choose a 200-foot-diameter circle within Snohomish County or Camano Island from which to view or hear birds for up to 24 hours.
- 3. BIG MONTH: This is for an individual or couple. They will be able to bird the entire state of Washington between May 1 and May 31.
- 4. PHOTO CONTESTS: These are for individuals. (*Photographers may also participate in one of the other team competitions above.*)

Rules, pledge sheets, and contest details will be posted on the Pilchuck Audubon website soon (<a href="www.pilchuckaudubon.org">www.pilchuckaudubon.org</a>)! But it's not too early to plan your strategy. Also, on the website you'll find tips for fundraising that will help you reach out to friends and family for pledges.

Get Ready! Start collecting those pledges! AND go find some birds!

### State Legislature

April 28 marked the end of the legislative session. I write this on April 23 to meet the PROFILE deadline, so, I know only about those bills that have passed as of today and are headed for the governor's desk for signature. [Ed. Note: Updated April 28, 9:00 p.m.] As space allows, I will comment about some bills not likely to pass. Most of the focus now is on tax and revenue aspects.

More work is needed to comfort policymakers, their respective constituents, and organized groups working in either support or opposition. We will see more work in coming months on "climate change bills" that didn't pass, leading to new bill language for existing bills, and, no doubt, new bill language for the next session come January 2020.

Here is what has passed as of today among priorities of Audubon Washington and partners.

**100% Clean Electricity by 2045 (Senate Bill 5116)** required amendments in both the House and Senate to gain support from utility companies. Coal use will be eliminated by 2025. There is language to encourage incentives for clean energy jobs. It "...removes all natural gasgenerated electricity from utility electricity loads by 2045," according to *The Seattle Times*.

Also in the *Times*, "The act mandates that utilities pay an administrative penalty fee if they fail to comply with the law and requires both electrical and gas utilities to include a social cost of carbon emissions as they plan for future resources."

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Hydrofluorocarbons (HFC) (House Bill 1112) passed. It phases out use of hydrofluorocarbons in equipment such as industrial refrigeration units. There are safer alternatives to HFC that are comparable in cost.

**Energy Efficiency (House Bill 1257)** passed both houses. This bill directs the state Commerce Department to design new energy standards for buildings larger than 50,000 square feet. It also directs the State Building Code Council to develop rules for charging electric vehicles in new buildings.

Amending State Greenhouse Gas Emission Limits (House Bill 1444), this bill sets efficiency standards for some appliances using electricity or water, based on standards developed in California and Vermont. Thanks to Representative Beth Doglio (D-22<sup>nd</sup> District; vice-chair, Capital Budget; Member Environment and Energy, and Transportation committees) for some of the above information.

Clean-fuels Legislation (HB 1110) still looks to "die" this session, thanks to opposition by the oil and trucking industries and most business associations. The bill would lower carbon content in gasoline. Opponents say gas prices would substantially increase, and there are more efficient ways to combat climate change. According to an Everett Herald story by Jerry Cornfield (4/4/19), an objective of House Bill 1110 is to increase the cost of gas, on assumption higher cost will cause consumers to buy less gas. As a lot of our gas taxes go toward transportation funding in the state budget, how will highway infrastructure maintenance be paid for? The bill has been stalled in Senator Steve Hobbs' Transportation Committee, in part due to other senators who don't have an answer acceptable to some of their constituents.

I strongly urge folks to read the Cornfield article (<a href="https://www.heraldnet.com/news/is-a-low-carbon-fuel-standard-running-out-of-political-gas/">https://www.heraldnet.com/news/is-a-low-carbon-fuel-standard-running-out-of-political-gas/</a>) for excellent insights about very real aspects around this matter. The realities of "no free lunch" for most stakeholders are obvious! It is a good story for Political Science 101 students!

Many thanks to Pilchuck Audubon members who have sent comments on bills this session to your legislators! Cumulatively, whether in support or opposition to entire bills or only some language in some bills, "showing up" makes a difference!

# Thank You, Terry Nightingale

After six years of serving as Vice President for Pilchuck Audubon Society, Terry Nightingale is refocusing on other roles in service of the organization. Terry's gentle nature and thoughtful process will be sorely missed on the Board. True to his nature, Terry has offered to continue for up to six months while we work to find a new volunteer to fill the position.

Terry's contribution of time and talent go far beyond the duties of Vice President. In addition to assisting the Board of Directors in every way needed, Terry serves as a weekend trip leader and continues to keep our website up and running. As President, I will forever be in debt to Terry's willingness to stretch his schedule to fit in any and all requests for help.

Thank you, Terry, for all you've done to keep Pilchuck Audubon Society a vibrant, robust organization. You will be missed from the Board!

# TRIP CALENDAR

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



Saturday, May 4 Trees and Birds in Shoreline

Meet at 8:00 AM near the entrance to the parking lot of the Mountlake Terrace Transit Center (<a href="https://www.communitytransit.org/busservice/transit-centers-and-parking">https://www.communitytransit.org/busservice/transit-centers-and-parking</a>). We'll visit the Pacific Northwest Conifer Arboretum and neighboring Ronald Bog Park, then Kruckeberg Botanic Garden. To finish, we'll visit nearby Innis Arden Reserve Park. Wear boots! Trip leader: Douglas Resnick, 425-776-4811 (cell: 206-617-0019), dresnick1@comcast.net.

## Tuesday, May 7 Snohomish City and Outskirts

Meet at 8:00 AM at Snohomish Park & Ride, located at the junction of SR-9 and Bickford Ave. Enjoyable and relaxed trip. We usually have good species counts and surprises. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leader: Art Wait, 360-563-0181

# Tuesday, May 14 Cle Elum Area

Meet at 6:00 AM at the Monroe Park & Ride on US-2, 1/2 mile west of the fairgrounds. This is an all-day trip. Different birds: Red-naped Sapsucker, Northern Goshawk, Calliope Hummingbird, Western Bluebird, Mountain Bluebird, Magpie, Vesper Sparrow, and Cassin's Finch possible. Experience Cle Elum. Pack a lunch. Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Saturday, May 19 Kids' Picnic and Birdwalk, Juanita Bay Park, Kirkland. 2:00 p.m. Bring a sack lunch.

Trip Leader: Jonathan Blubaugh, 425-244-7633

## Tuesday, May 21 SR-530, Arlington to Darrington

Meet at 7:30 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart west of Marysville (I-5 Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd, and next to I-5. We are going to visit areas along SR-530 near the rivers. Included are Fortson Ponds, Squire Creek County Park, and Sauk River Boat Launch. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

## Tuesday, May 28 Leavenworth Area

Meet at 6:00 AM at Monroe Park & Ride on US-2, 1/2 mile west of the fairgrounds. Many species rarely seen around home. We will go up Icicle Creek and certainly try for the Calliope Hummingbird and Lazuli Bunting in Camas Meadows. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750

Tuesday, June 4 Snoqualmie River Valley

Monroe to Carnation

Meet at 7:30 AM at Monroe Park & Ride on US-2, 1/2 mile west of the fairgrounds. Expect a fun time and exciting

birds. Pack a lunch.

Trip Leader: Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760

#### Saturday, June 1

## Northern Bothell Parks

Meet at 8:00 AM at the north end of the Canyon Park Park & Ride (22400 17th Ave SE., Bothell); the nearest I-405 exit is 26. First, we'll walk to the Canyon Park Wetlands; later, we'll carpool to Centennial Park.

Trip leader: Douglas Resnick, 425-776-4811 (cell: 206-617-0019), dresnick1@comcast.net 2



# World Migratory Bird Day – May 11, 2019

**Protect Birds: Be the Solution to Plastic Pollution!** 

#### Plastic and the harm it does to the environment

With an annual production of more than 300 million tons, plastic is one of the most widely used materials in the world. What often escapes one's attention is that the plastic is used for its main purpose for only a moment compared with its lifecycle of 20 to 500 years. Lightweight and designed to last, the discarded pieces are easily transported to ecosystems through the forces of nature, causing serious threats to migratory species around the world. An estimated 8 million tons of plastic waste enter the world's oceans each year. To make matters worse, plastic does not simply dissolve. Broken down into small particles by water, sunlight, and wind, it often leads to lethal cases of ingestion and entanglement.

## How does plastic affect birds?

Sadly, having wings does not help birds escape the threat of plastic. Dead chicks with stomachs full of plastic, entangled and smothered by plastic rings and nets, are all too real consequences of the toll that plastic takes on birds and other wildlife.

## Ingestion

Foraging behavior makes seabirds prone to ingesting plastics. Floating on the surface of the water, covered in algae, single-use plastics such as bags, drinking straws, and bottles can easily be mistaken for prey, both by shape and by smell. Unwittingly, birds feed plastic to their chicks that are even more vulnerable due to their underdeveloped organs.

#### **Entanglement**

Layers of plastic covering wetlands lead to many cases of entanglement and trapping. Abandoned fishing gear is one of the most common causes, leading to a phenomenon called 'ghost fishing'. Caught birds are either injured and pick up infections or end up drowning. Often, trapped birds are

Continued on Page 6

## HELP WANTED

Pilchuck Audubon Society primarily operates on volunteer power. Please consider how you might offer up a few hours of your time to keep our advocacy, programs, and projects running. Consider the following needs, and let us know if you might be interested in serving on the PAS Board of Directors by filling one of these key leadership positions:

**VICE PRESIDENT**: The Vice President position consists of assisting the President in carrying out his/her duties and presiding at all meetings in the absence of the President.

SCIENCE CHAIR: This position leads the Science
Committee and supports the Board by offering oversight
for any science-based project engaged in by
Pilchuck Audubon and offers expertise/
researched opinion when needed for conservation
advocacy.

**DEVELOPMENT CHAIIR**: This position leads the Development Committee and supports the Board by planning the sources of income needed to fund PAS activities and commitments.

For just a few hours of your time, you ensure the fulfillment of the PAS mission while being fully supported by a nurturing Board and grateful environment. Contact Cindy Easterson, <a href="mailto:president@pilchuckaudubon.org">president@pilchuckaudubon.org</a> or by phone at (425) 876-1055, with questions about how you can serve.



# NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN MAY

Due to unfortunate scheduling conflicts and cancellations, there will be no monthly membership meeting in May. However, there are many options for engaging with PAS in the coming weeks. Here are just a few:

Family Birding Field Trip – May 11, 2019 at Wiley Slough. Check out the details in this newsletter for an exciting day of birding and learning for the entire family

IT'S BIRDATHON MONTH and you are not too late to join the fun. Check out the details and NEW additions for this year's Birdathon. Grab your binoculars and see if you can vie for top birder or tap into your inner wildlife photographer and submit a winning photo to compete across multiple categories in this year's Birdathon.

Mark your calendars for the June 14 Membership Meeting when Dan Steiffert, an avid wildlife photographer and birder, will narrate and show photography from multiple-year visits to Malheur Wildlife Refuge in Oregon.

## WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY, continued from Page 5

limited in their movements and easily become prey to other animals.

## What to do to fight plastic pollution?

- Reduce, reuse, and recycle Limit your use of plastic materials and replace them with eco-friendly alternatives; use and dispose of plastics sustainably.
- **Clean up** Join clean-up activities in your area, whether at beaches or along rivers.
- Spread the word Support local and global action against excessive, unnecessary use, and detrimental disposal of plastic.



# BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator February 26, 2019 to March 25, 2019

Things are back to normal after all that snow in February. I don't have flocks of birds eating on the deck any more.

Well, the swallows are back. Carole and Larry Beason reported 4 Tree Swallow from their home at Lake Bosworth. Their report included 2 American Goldfinch, a Bald Eagle, 26 Bufflehead on the lake, 11 Canada Goose, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 3 Golden-crowned Sparrow, 3 Hooded Merganser on the lake, 40+ Mallard Duck flying over, the first time sighting of a Northern Pintail Duck, a Pileated Woodpecker at the suet, 7 Purple Finch, a Red-tailed Hawk flying over the house, 12+ Red-winged Blackbird, 167 Ringnecked Duck on the lake, 2 Rufous Hummingbird, and 7 Varied Thrush, for a total species count of 43.

Hilkka Egtvedt had a busy month at her home in Everett. Her total species count of 26 included a Bald Eagle flying low over the street in front of her house, 4 Anna's Hummingbird (including 2 juveniles), 4 Northern Flicker, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Bewick's Wren, a Ruby-crowned Kinglet that appeared during the snow and stayed feeding on the suet, 2 Golden-crowned Sparrow, a White-crowned Sparrow, 5 Purple Finch, 2 Pine Siskin, and an American Goldfinch.

Kriss Erickson's report from Everett included 14 Dark-eyed Junco, 7 American Robin, 2 Bewick's Wren, a Pacific Wren, 11 Northwestern Crow, 12 Western Gull, 15 Black-capped Chickadee, 3 Spotted Towhee, 4 Varied Thrush, 2 Downy Woodpecker, a Yellow Warbler, 3 Mallard Duck, 3 Song Sparrow, and 2 Canada Goose, for a total species count of 21.

Mary Sinker's March report included 25 American Robin, 5 Anna's Hummingbird,2 Barred Owl, 12 Black-capped Chickadee, a Cooper's Hawk, 35 Dark-eyed Junco, 2 Great Blue Heron at the creek, 11 House Finch, 6 House Sparrow, 4 Kinglet species, 13 Mourning Dove, 5 Northern Flicker, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Red-tailed Hawk, 125 Red-winged Blackbird, 12 Steller's Jay, 9 Tree Swallow, 9 Varied Thrush, 4 White-crowned Sparrow, and 4 Pacific Wren, for a total species count of 29.

My report from Marysville included 20+ Canada Goose flying over, 3 House Finch, 12 Mallard Duck in the fields, 2 Mourning Dove, 3 Northern Flicker, 20+ Rock Dove on the wires, 4 Spotted Towhee, 6 Varied Thrush still hanging around, 3 Steller's Jay, 2 Pileated Woodpecker, 12 American Robin, 30+ Trumpeter Swan in the fields along 100<sup>th</sup> St., a White-crowned Sparrow, 4 Ringed-neck Duck in the pond, 2 Song Sparrow, Bald Eagle in a tree, and a Cooper's Hawk, for a total species count of 25.

Mary Sinker's February Report included 11 American Robin, 9 Anna's Hummingbird, 2 Bald Eagle, 20 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Brown Creeper, 65 Dark-eyed Junco, 7 Downy Woodpecker, 5 Hairy Woodpecker, 11 House Finch, 25 Mourning Dove, 2 Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Red-breasted Sapsucker, 10 Song Sparrow, 12 Steller's Jay, 19 Varied Thrush,

# REPORT: TWO IN MARYSVILLE 6 April 2019

by Douglas Resnick, Trip Leader

Lisa, Michelle, Jonathan, and I met on a mild, but rainy morning near the Quil Ceda Village Walmart. We visited two sites in Marysville: Jennings Memorial Park and the Ebey Waterfront Trail. We observed 41 species of birds, as recorded on eBird.

We began at Jennings by walking down to the fishing pond, along its eastern side, then up a trail surrounded by shrubs and trees, which brought us nearly back to our starting point. In this area, we saw sparrows on the ground and in the bushes, as well as a Downy Woodpecker in one of the trees. A Great Blue Heron landed, then took off again as we continued over a bridge and on toward the playground at the southern end of the park. Meanwhile, the rain slowed, then stopped, and the sun came out. Walking north, we diverged from our original path, in order to view the wetlands more closely. We were rewarded by sightings of Mallards, Marsh Wrens, and a Fox Sparrow.

After a short stop for refreshments at Starbucks, we drove to Harborview Park. Behind the park is a portion of the Ebey Waterfront Trail, running to the north and to the south. We followed the trail to the south, where it ends at the sign of the blue fish. Little rain fell during this part of the outing, but the wind blew, sometimes quite strongly. Augmenting our binoculars with a spotting scope, we obtained good views of birds in the nearby water and on the mudflats, as well as in the bushes and trees next to the trail. A number of ducks were in evidence, including American Wigeon, Green-winged Teal, and Northern Pintail, as

well as a large flock of Greater Yellowlegs. A couple of Bald Eagles flew overhead on two occasions, rousing the birds from their foraging. We also spotted a Turkey Vulture in the air. Closer to those of us on the ground were a Sora and a Common Yellowthroat.



Greater Yellowlegs | Audubon

We finished our birding shortly after 1:00 p.m., then joined Judy for lunch at Cristiano's Pizza.

4 White-crowned Sparrow, and 5 Pacific Wren, for a total species count of 28.

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

# UPCOMING EVENTS, CLASSES, and FESTIVALS farther afield

# **Copper River Delta Shorebird Festival**

Cordova, AK

May 2-5

https://www.coppershorebird.com

**Grays Harbor Shorebird & Nature Festival** Hoquiam, WA and Grays Harbor NWR May 3-5

Schedule, Events, and Registration: www.shorebirdfestival.com

## "The Biggest Week in American Birding"

Oregon, Ohio

May 3-12

Maumee Bay Lodge and Conference Center, 1750 State Park Road #2, Oregon, Ohio 43616

Immerse yourself in spring songbird migration and experience some of the best birding North America has to offer. The festival has something to offer beginner and seasoned birders alike, with bird identification workshops, guided birding trips, birding by canoe, daily walks at the world famous Magee Marsh, American Woodcock field trips, keynote presentations, a Birder's Marketplace, and evening socials with free food and music. Come for a few days or stay for the whole 10-day celebration. Keynotes include Kenn Kaufman, David Sibley, Jim Carpenter, Hob Osterlund, Marie Read, Marc and Eliana Kramer Ardila (Birding by Bus), and Katie Fallon. Contact: 419-898-4070, biggestweek@bsbo.org.

### **Creston Valley Bird Fest**

Creston Valley, BC, Canada

May 10-12

The Creston Valley Bird Fest is a celebration of the birds, the art, and the agriculture of the Creston Valley located in the Kootenay region of SE British Columbia. The festival hosts over 40 events including birding tours (by kayak, bicycle, on foot, in a van, or on a bench), mushroom hunting, dark-sky viewing, a paint and pour at the local winery, an historical walking tour of Creston, tours of the organic dairy and fromagerie, as well as tasting tours at the local honey farm and Saskatoon berry distillery. There is also a photography workshop and a variety of kids events. Guest speakers include Dr. David Bird from McGill University, Montreal, and Gary Davidson, world traveller and avian photographer from Nakusp, B.C. Registration opens first week of April, 2019. Contact: info@crestonvalleybirds.ca

## **Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest**

Leavenworth, WA

May 16-19

www.LeavenworthSpringBirdFest.org

## **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

Address

City Phone

E-mail Send me these via e-mail (check all that apply & include your e-mail address above):

Pilchuck Audubon Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable corporation registered with the Washington Secretary of State. Your contributions are tax deductible.

Program Announcements

# ☐ 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 Name

# 13th Annual Chequamegon Bay Birding & Nature Ashland, Wisconsin

Three days of birding and nature activities on Wisconsin's south shore of Lake Superior at the peak of spring migration. More than 100 field trips and informative programs. Friday night keynote speaker is Sharon Stiteler, aka "Birdchick." Sharon has written a number of books, including 1001 Secrets Every Birder Should Know and City Birds/Country Birds. Contact: Ashland Chamber, 800-284-9484, or visit our website, <a href="https://www.birdandnaturefest.com/">https://www.birdandnaturefest.com/</a>.

#### Dean Hale Woodpecker Festival May 30-June 2

Sisters, Oregon

Observe eleven different species of woodpeckers (including White-headed, Black-backed, and American Three-toed) as well as 200 other bird species who make their homes in the spectacular forests, burn areas, and diverse habitat of central Oregon's Cascade mountains and high desert. Sponsored by East Cascades Audubon Society (ECAS), this festival offers a fun, friendly, casual atmosphere that is all about the birds. The trips are affordable and guided by two local field trip leaders, with the proceeds supporting the many ECAS projects. Online registration opens April 1, 2019, at 9 am, PDT, and tours fill quickly. Contact: <a href="mailto:Dhwf2018@gmail.com">Dhwf2018@gmail.com</a> or Ken Hashagen at khashagen@outlook.com. 🙎