

Looking Back on 2021



The adage of a roller coaster year has perhaps never been more accurate, as we followed the ups and downs of the epidemiological curves, the emotional highs and lows of vaccines and variants, and endured catastrophic storms and flooding while celebrating the return of some in-person activities.

We are fortunate to end our year on one of the highs—just last week we welcomed our 400th chapter member! While this is a tremendous milestone, we believe it is just the beginning. This year we had more than 1,200 attendees at our monthly programs—more than double that of 2020. On top of that, we had more than 450 class registrations this year.

Our chapter is also gaining recognition in our area as a valuable resource for birds, conservation, and climate. We were invited to give presentations to several organizations, including the Rotary Clubs of Edmonds and Seattle Northeast, Lynnwood Senior Center, Everett Public Library (twice!), Snohomish PUD, and Everett Community College. Additionally, we've built a relationship with Congressman Rick Larsen of the U.S. House of Representatives, who has invited us to multiple conference calls.

This is all great news because it means we're getting the word out there about bird conservation. In fact, the main priority for PAS when it was chartered was environmental education. Building upon that legacy, we are very excited that our Education Committee has been revitalized this year with a new committee chair and several new committee members. They have already begun laying the groundwork for the next era of Pilchuck Audubon educational programs and activities, including hosting the very first Flying WILD workshop.

Speaking of flying wild, how about those Vaux's Swifts? Thanks to the effort of volunteers all along the West Coast, the Vaux's Happening project recorded an all-time high of southbound birds this fall—an astronomical 1,576,944

swifts! Of that total, 67,842 were observations from the chimney roost in Monroe.

While our chapter is fortunate to have a staff member, much of what we do would not be possible without you, our incredible volunteers and supporters. We just started tracking volunteer hours in the second half of 2021, but we have already recorded more than 1,500 hours of volunteered time! As someone who works closely with our volunteers, I can assure you that number is vastly undercounted. So a tremendous thank you goes out to all of our amazing volunteers!

All of the highlights above, and many I don't have space to mention here, show that our communities are full of people who deeply cherish our wildlife and natural spaces. In the coming year, we will continue to build upon this progress and broaden our reach, as we are committed to serving all communities in our area.

Yes, 2021 has undoubtedly been another challenging year for many of us. But as you can see from all our accomplishments above, we are dedicated to creating our own good news. And from our chapter leaders to you: we truly hope you are well, that you can find joy in these difficult times, and that you know you will always have a friend and sense of belonging in our Audubon community.

With gratitude,

Brian Zinke
Executive Director

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January Program Meeting

Nesting Success and Recruitment of Western and Clark's Grebes in Idaho

Guest Speaker: Anne Yen

January 14 ♦ 7:00 PM

Anne will be presenting on the plight of Western and Clark's Grebes in Idaho. The North American Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) reports a -2.73% yearly decline in Western and Clark's Grebe abundance between 1966 to 2015 for the Western BBS Region, which equates to a 75% decline over those 50 years.

Western and Clark's Grebes face various threats at their breeding and wintering sites. However, no data or past studies are available to assess which of these various threats are indeed responsible for the declines. Moreover, threats to Western and Clark's Grebe populations may vary regionally and declines may not be attributable to just one causal factor. Western and Clark's Grebes have declined in Idaho more so than those in other regions. Only 2 large breeding colonies remain active in Idaho and recruitment has been very low. The exact cause(s) of such low recruitment at both locations are unknown and is the focus of our research.

Anne Yen is a Master's student in Wildlife Sciences at the University of Idaho in Moscow. She was born and raised in suburban Detroit, Michigan, and got her B.S. in Resource Ecology from the University of Michigan. Prior to attending the University of Idaho, she spent about 14 field seasons working with various federal and state agencies as well as non-profit organizations across the continental



Western Grebes by Krisztina Scheeff |

Audubon Photography Awards

U. S. and the Hawaiian Islands in wildlife monitoring and habitat restoration. Her family lives in King County and she calls Washington State her home state.

Anne is also an artist and has a Certificate in Natural Science Illustration from the University of Washington. She also serves as a Graduate Student Mentor with the Doris Duke Conservation Scholars Program Collaborative at the University of Idaho, a program supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the fish and wildlife fields.

When: January 14, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Where: Online

Register for Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92012920620>



Sandhill Crane | Photo: Mandy Weger



Sandhill Crane Wingspan |
Photo: Mandy Weger

Thank You, Mandy Weger!

By Allen Gibbs

In early December, our Communications Chair, Mandy Weger, advised us that she is moving on to new business and personal adventures and will not continue as our communications leader. I advised our board, who have wished her well.

The board thanked Mandy for her work and counsel, and especially for getting a good start on a project previous boards have had as a priority project, i.e., updating the publication *Birding in Snohomish County*. There has been significant progress. Mandy, working with many volunteers,



Mountain Bluebird | Photo: Mandy Weger

lists of common species at each location, but also adding more information including park descriptions, information about trails, and more.



Ferruginous Hawk | Photo: Mandy Weger

Since its creation in 1997 and the subsequent publication of the revised second edition in 2001, much has changed in our county. We don't know the extent to which the presence of described birds is still true, or whether there is now a shopping mall or other development today where once there was native vegetation attractive to the described bird species.

This effort was put on hold during the pandemic, but we hope to restart revision of the third edition again in the new year. Volunteers will be needed to check, verify, and add new information about birding locations and which species occur there now. If you are interested in contributing to the effort, or know of possible candidates, please contact Brian Zinke, Executive Director, to learn more about the project.

Mandy has recently shared with us some bird photos taken in New Mexico.

Mandy, you and your Wire-haired Fox Terriers will be missed on our ZOOM calls! 🦅

More of Mandy's photos from New Mexico appear on other pages of this newsletter.



Gambels (Quails) | Photo: Mandy Weger

UPCOMING CLASSES

All classes will be conducted over Zoom and recorded, so if you cannot make the live sessions you can still register to receive access to the recordings for a few weeks after each class.

Register for classes at <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/classes>.

Winter Waterfowl

January 11, 18, 25; February 8

7:00-8:30 PM

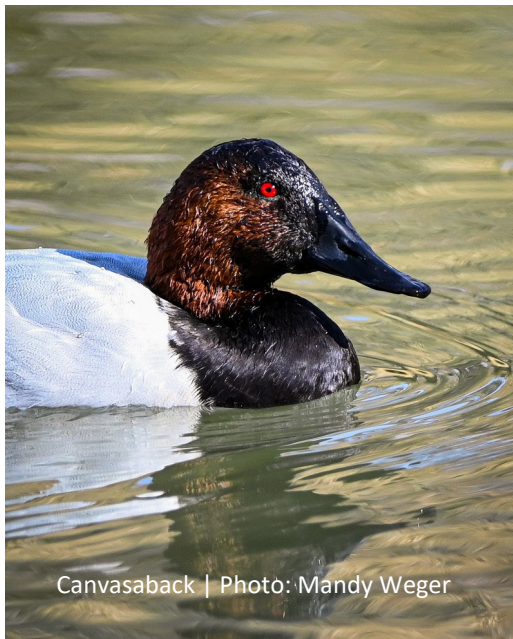
Pricing: \$45 for members, \$60 for non-members

Led by Connie Sidles, Master Birder

Everybody knows a Mallard, right? And Northern Shovelers are those guys with big bills, while Buffle-heads are the little black-and-white “rubber duckies.”

But do you **really** know your waterfowl, even the so-called easy ones? Can you identify each species by gender, in eclipse, in flight, and by voice?

Western Washington is the winter home for more than three dozen different species of swans, geese, and ducks. It is possible to know them all, in all their guises. Let master birder Connie Sidles take you on a virtual journey through our state’s waterways to discover the ins and outs of our winter waterfowl. If time allows, we may cover a couple more webbed species such as loons.



Canvasback | Photo: Mandy Weger



Barrow's Goldeneye. Photo: Brian Zinke

Barrow's Goldeneye | Photo Credit: Brian Zinke

The Basic Bird: Essentials of Anatomy and Physiology, Part 1

February 22

7:00-8:30 PM

Pricing: \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members

Led by Cathy Johnson-Delaney, DVM

To truly appreciate these remarkable creatures, an exploration of the avian anatomy and physiology is essential. This course will present the avian anatomy and function from both a lifelong birder and avian veterinarian's perspective. This webinar will start with the musculoskeletal and respiratory systems and integrate the nervous and gastrointestinal systems, and how this impacts all aspects of flight and behavior.

Dr. Cathy Johnson-Delaney is a 1980 WSU graduate who has practiced avian and exotic pet practice in the greater Puget Sound area. She was board certified in avian practice, and is currently writing a textbook on avian procedures and techniques. She served as President of the Association of Avian Veterinarians 1994-95 and is currently on the board of the Association of NW Avian & Exotic Veterinarians.

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Wilson's Warbler
Photo: Camilla Cerea/Audubon

Wilson's Warbler | Photo Credit: Camilla Cerea



Winter Wings Birding/Photography Festival

Klamath Falls, Oregon
February 18-20, 2022

Get ready for a 2022 Winter Wings Festival like no other! Winter Wings brings together birders and photographers to learn and explore with top-notch professionals and enthusiastic local guides. The Klamath Basin is renowned for its massive wintering population of Bald Eagles, but is prime habitat for many other raptors including owls, as well as a diversity of waterfowl.

The 2022 Festival will feature Richard Crossley, author of the Crossley ID Guides and co-author of *Ornithology: For Your Mind, Body, and Soul*. For our photography keynote we are excited to have Jennifer Leigh Warner, conservation wildlife photographer.

Join us for an extensive array of field trips, workshops, presentations, and receptions that highlight the wonders of the Klamath Basin in winter. On Friday, Feb. 18, there will be several presentations on the status of Klamath Basin wetlands and partner initiatives.

Dates: Friday, Feb. 18 through Sunday, Feb. 20, 2022

Host site: Oregon Institute of Technology (Oregon Tech),
3201 Campus Drive, Klamath Falls, Oregon, 97601

Website: www.WinterWingsFest.org

Registration opens in mid-December on date TBA.

For information, call 877-541-BIRD (2473) or email info@winterwingsfest.org

Neotropical Migrants

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Pricing: \$55 for members, \$75 for non-members

Led by Connie Sidles, Master Birder

The neotropical arrivals will be streaming into our state as soon as spring arrives. In fact, all across the continent, billions of passerines from Central and South America are coming to breed. They all will be in their brightest spring plumage—living jewels that each has made this arduous journey on its own, driven by the need to nest.

If you've been overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of species that swell our year-round avian populations, then this class is for you. Come hear Connie Sidles explain how to ID warblers, vireos, flycatchers, kingbirds, shrikes, swallows, swifts, nightjars, and (if time allows) hummingbirds. They are here for only a short time, and then they leave us in late summer and fall, emptying our skies for another year.

New Vaux's Swift Scientific Publication!

A new Vaux's Swift publication came out in November with a coauthor many of you may recognize, Mr. Larry Schwitters of [Vaux's Happening](#). The paper is titled, "Rapid advancement of spring migration and en route adjustment of migration timing in response to weather during fall migration in Vaux's Swifts (*Chaetura vauxi*)."

While we can't share the PDF publicly, you can [view the abstract here](#).

A big thanks goes out to all of you who help us survey for Vaux's Swifts during the migration! Your efforts helped make this publication possible. Thank you! 🦉

Close-up of Vaux's
Swift by
Salem KATU TV
Channel 2 News



BIRDING FIELD TRIPS

TRIP CALENDAR

Check our website, <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming-trips>, for the latest information.



~~Tuesday, January 4~~ ~~Monroe to Carnation~~

~~Meet at 8:00 AM at the Monroe Park & Ride on US 2 as we ring in the New Year with a trip through the Snoqualmie River Valley. Build your 2022 Year List at regular stops, including Lake Tye, Crescent Lake, Tolt-McDonald Park, Sikes Lake, and the Snoqualmie River Trail. Pack a lunch. (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM) Trip Leader: Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760.~~

Tuesday, January 11 Samish Flats

Meet at 8:00 AM at Quil Ceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store to the east near Quil Ceda Blvd. (next to I-5). We will look for winter hawks, falcons, owls, shrikes, and wintering waterfowl along the flats and check out both Padilla Bay and Samish Bay. Pack a lunch. Dress for the weather. (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM) Trip Leader: Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760.

Tuesday, January 18 Port Townsend

Meet at 7:10 AM at the Edmonds Wade James Theater parking lot. The theater's address is 950 Main St., Edmonds, 98020, just east of 9th Ave., on the south side of Main St. This popular winter trip focuses on various sites around Port Townsend, including Marrowstone Island, Fort Flagler, Fort Worden, and Kah Tai Lagoon. Pack a lunch. Dress for the weather, including possibly windy conditions. (7:10 AM to 5:00 PM) Trip Leader: Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760.

Tuesday, January 25 Camano Island

Meet at 8:00 AM at Quil Ceda Village Walmart lot west of Marysville (I-5 exit 200). Park away from the store to the east near Quil Ceda Blvd. (next to I-5). We will explore English Boom, Utsalady Bay, Barnum Point, Iverson Point, and other spots for winter woodland birds and waterfowl. Pack a lunch. Dress for the weather. (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM) Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360-435-3750. 🦋

Weekend Birdwalk Schedule

Saturday, January 1 122nd Annual Christmas Bird Count

Meet Team Counting Crows for Everett's Christmas Bird Count at Marysville-Gissberg Twin Lakes Park at 8:00 a.m. Take I-5 to the SR 531/Smokey Point exit. Go west on 172nd St. and take a left at the first signal into the Lakewood Crossing shopping center. Turn left into the shopping center and proceed to the I-5 frontage road, Twin Lakes Av. Turn right and the park will be on your right. Go to the second (south) parking lot. All day. Open to all. No reservations required. Bring "fowl" weather gear, sturdy walking boots, water, and snacks for yourself. Also bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them.

Sunday, January 9 CANCELED

Weekend Birdwalk is canceled due to bad weather and flooding.

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

2022 Field Trip Waivers

If you plan on attending a field trip, please be prepared to sign a waiver when you show up, or send yours in electronically ahead of time to director@pilchuckaudubon.org. Even if you've recently signed a 2021 waiver, we'll need you to sign a new one for the current year.

As a reminder, our current guidelines are:

- For those who are unvaccinated for COVID-19, we will not be able to accommodate your attendance on field trips at this time.
- For those who are vaccinated:
 - Masks are not required while outdoors.
 - Carpooling with individuals from outside of your house is allowed, but masks should be worn while in the vehicle.
 - Maintaining 6 feet of distance between participants is highly encouraged.
 - Sharing equipment is discouraged.

Please review the full [field trip guidelines here](#). You can [download your 2022 waiver here](#) to sign ahead of time.

Thank you for helping us keep our friends, families, and communities safe! 🦋

Great Backyard Bird Count Training with Alan Mearns and Brian Zinke

Free, Online Program

Hosted by the Everett Public Library

Started in 1998 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) was the first community science project to collect data on wild birds and [display the results](#) in nearly real time.

For four days each February, people from all over the world come together to count as many birds as they can. This can be in your own backyard, as the name of the count indicates, but can actually be from anywhere—your neighborhood, the local park or beach, even the Everett Public Library! These observations help scientists better understand global bird populations before one of their annual migrations.

This fun workshop, held virtually on the Saturday before the GBBC, is designed for first timers, beginning birders, teachers, families and kids, and others who want to learn how to participate in the GBBC and brush up on their backyard bird identification skills. The training will include what birds you are likely to see, how to practice spotting birds, and recording and entering your data online.

This year's GBBC itself takes place from February 18-21, 2022. The GBBC is free, fun, and easy for all ages. You can participate even if you have only 15 minutes to spare!

For more information on the GBBC, visit the [GBBC website](#) or [Pilchuck Audubon's website](#).

Alan Mearns is a retired NOAA scientist in Edmonds. He and his wife have participated in the GBBC for more than a decade, have conducted backyard bird counts for nearly 30 years, and both are long-time members of the planning committee for the annual Puget Sound Bird Fest (held in September).

Brian Zinke is the Executive Director for the Pilchuck Audubon Society. He's a certified Associate Wildlife Biologist®, and has worked to conserve several endangered species in Washington, Wyoming, and Kansas.

To Register:

<https://www.crowdcast.io/e/birdcount2/register>

Saturday, Feb 12 @ 10 AM



**GREAT BACKYARD
BIRD COUNT
TRAINING**
with
**ALAN MEARNES
& BRIAN ZINKE**



[crowdcast.io/e/birdcount2](https://www.crowdcast.io/e/birdcount2)



BACKYARD BIRDING HIGHLIGHTS

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

October 26 to November 25, 2021

Here's hoping everyone had Happy Holidays and will have a Happy New Year.

Carole and Larry Beason's total species count of 39 from Lake Bosworth included 2 American Robin, 3 Anna's Hummingbird, a Bald Eagle near Granite Falls, 20+ Bufflehead ducks flying over the lake, 80 American Coot on the lake, 2 Common Raven flying over, 4 Common Merganser on the lake, 12 Dark-eyed Junco, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 36+ European Starling, 5 Golden-crowned Sparrow, a Great Blue Heron flying over, a Hutton's Vireo, 8 Mourning Dove, 2 Northern Flicker, 5 Pine Siskin, 6 Purple Finch, 2 Red-breasted Sapsucker, 24 Red-winged Blackbird, 9 Ring-necked Duck flying over, 8 Spotted Towhee, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2 Varied Thrush, and 4 Wood Duck on the lake.

Reporting from Edmonds, Sarah and Paul Bueren listed 17 Dark-eyed Junco, 2 Song Sparrow, 2 House Finch, 5 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Golden-crowned Kinglet, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Northern Flicker, 2 Spotted Towhee, a Pileated Woodpecker, a Hairy Woodpecker, a Bald Eagle flying over, a Red-tailed Hawk, a Cooper's Hawk on the feeders, 2 Great Blue Heron, 35 American Crow being fed by their neighbors, and 2 Steller's Jay, for a total species count of 19.

Hilkka Egtvedt's report from Mukilteo included a Band-tailed Pigeon, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, a Downy Woodpecker, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 3 Northern Flicker, a Pileated Woodpecker, 3 Steller's Jay, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, 4 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Bewick's Wren, a Townsend's Warbler, 2 Spotted Towhee, a Fox Sparrow, a Song Sparrow, a Golden-crowned Sparrow, a White-crowned Sparrow, 23 Dark-eyed junco, 5 House Finch, 14 Pine Siskin, and an Evening Grosbeak, for a total species count of 24.

Reporting from Everett near the waterfront, Kriss Erickson listed 18 Black-capped Chickadee, 11 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Bewick's Wren, 12 American Crow, 6 Western Gull, 12 American Robin, 8 House Finch, 3 Spotted Towhee, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 2 Northern Flicker, 2 Song Sparrow, an Anna's Hummingbird, 36 European Starling, a Barred Owl, 12 Dark-eyed Junco, 23 Canada Goose, and a Red-breasted Nuthatch, for a total species count of 19.

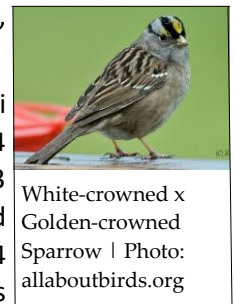
Maureen Schmitz's report from Everett listed 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Song Sparrow, 20 European Starling, 5 Dark-eyed Junco, 5 House Finch, 4 Steller's Jay, 40-50 Pine Siskin, 2 Bewick's Wren, 3 Golden-crowned Sparrow, 2 White-crowned Sparrow, 6 Black-capped Chickadee, 5 American Crow, 3 Anna's Hummingbird, a Spotted Towhee, 4 Red-winged Blackbird, a Ruby-crowned Kinglet, a Hairy Woodpecker, and a Downy Woodpecker, for a total species count of 21.

Mary Sinker's report from her home in Stanwood listed 12 American Robin, 10 Anna's Hummingbird, a Bald Eagle, a Barred Owl, 25 Black-capped Chickadee, a Brown Creeper, 11 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 2 Cooper's Hawk, 63 Dark-eyed Junco, 5 Downy Woodpecker, 2 Golden-crowned Sparrow, a Great Blue Heron, 4 Hairy Woodpecker, 9 House Finch, 6 Kinglet species, 24 Mourning Dove, 7 Northern Flicker, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 Red-tailed Hawk, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, 6 Song Sparrow, 11 Spotted Towhee, 14 Steller's Jay, 2 Varied Thrush, 5 White-crowned Sparrow, and 6 Pacific Wren, for a total species count of 29.

Reporting from Monroe, Walter Zandi reported a Pileated Woodpecker, 4 Steller's Jay, 2 Hairy Woodpecker, 3 American Robin, a White-crowned Sparrow, 15 Dark-eyed Junco, 4 Northern Flicker at the suet, 3 Anna's Hummingbird, 2 Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Spotted Towhee, a Song Sparrow, 2 American Crow, 2 Mourning Dove, 2 Downy Woodpecker, 26 Pine Siskin, a Chestnut-backed Chickadee, a Winter Wren, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 House Finch, a Varied Thrush, and a Cooper's Hawk, for a total species count of 21.

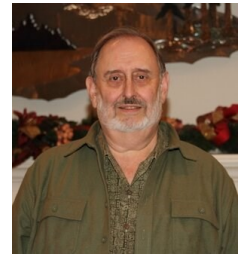
My report from Marysville includes 4 American Crow, 3 American Robin, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadee, 12 Dark-eyed Junco, 100+ European Starling, 30+ Brewer's Blackbird, 4 House Finch, 12 Glaucous-winged Gull, a Cooper's Hawk, 4 Northern Flicker, a Downy Woodpecker, a Pileated Woodpecker, 3 Steller's Jay, 6 Spotted Towhee, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 Varied Thrush, 7 Bushtit, 2 Anna's Hummingbird, 3 Mourning Dove, a Great Horned Owl in the woods, and 3 Pine Siskin, for a total species count of 25.

If you are interested in participating in our Backyard Bird Count, please email me at pricemara1@gmail.com or call my cell phone at 425-750-8125. 🐦



Brian Zinke's excellent 2021 review of PAS activities is spot on! It's been a challenge for the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs to respond to changing conditions, respond to new needs, and create opportunities to advance protection of birds and their habitats. We all are unpaid volunteers. Brian Zinke, Executive Director, is our only paid staff.

I thank the PAS' extended board for its volunteer efforts and leadership this past year. They are listed by responsibility in a box in the newsletter. The Board of Directors is listed with brief bios on the PAS website. I see some of those bios need updating in the New Year. I invite you to read that list. There are some vacancies. I invite members to consider volunteering to fill a committee chair. Perhaps join a



Allen Gibbs

committee? Contact any of us on the board if you are interested.

All of the directors and chairs have titles, but we also do things in addition to the required duties of each position. Most everyone has been involved in matters beyond our PAS titles.

Bill Derry, vice president, acts in the absence of the president. He has also taken on special work for PAS. Bill has a great professional background to include having once worked for Snohomish County in surface water management, being a leader in WA State in such matters. He has retired from Ch₂m Hill. He is renewing relationships with Snohomish County activities in surface water management, which ties in well with work with the Stillaguamish and Tulalip Tribes through their respective salmon recovery councils, where emphasis is on watershed restoration benefitting birds and other wildlife. He is succeeding Susie Schaefer in securing our monthly programs, and is doing outreach to Edmonds City Parks in expanding outdoor recreation opportunities with additional green spaces. He, with other Directors, and Brian are completing our 2022 draft budget.

Jamie Adkins (Parrott), Secretary, is doing the usual work of that office, i.e., recording our monthly board meetings and maintains official files. She is leading PAS's development in our new, evolving plan for EDIB accomplishments (Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging). Her considerable experiences and education in the private and public sectors is invaluable! This applies to chapter work and outreach to the varied communities in Snohomish County and Camano Island. PAS is one of five chapters chosen to participate in National Audubon Society's EDIB pilot work begun in 2021. These chapters in Kirkland, WA; Columbus, Ohio; Mt. Diablo, CA; Las Vegas, NV; and Snohomish, WA, will make presentations about their work at the National Audubon Convention in Tacoma, July 21-24, 2022.

Judy Hall, Treasurer, handles the hardcore work of a nonprofit organization in WA State. She came to PAS from an ongoing, active work experience in public accounting, and a strong interest in birds. She is the custodian of PAS's funds and is responsible for keeping accounts, disbursing funds, and providing financial reports in accordance with

the Board's direction and society policies, which, in turn, must comply with state and federal financial and tax regulations. She has volunteered to staff PAS exhibits over the years such as Vaux's Swift Nights Out, and she helps Jonathan Blubaugh with special field trips for Hispanic youth. Judy will retire in April as Treasurer. Jonathan is a "Boeing man" and contributing writer about great field trip locations.

Judy has been part of a team with Jeff Hambleton, Development Chair; Martha Jordan, Avian Science Chair; and Brian Zinke in developing a new management plan of PAS's investments.

Martha Jordan is leading development of PAS's first land stewardship policy and plan, dealing with lands we own or may be offered. Martha has served in PAS leadership most recently since early 2020 but was very active years ago. She is a wildlife biologist and has both worked for WDFW (WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife) and been a volunteer in its work and to the Fish and Wildlife Commission. She founded and is Executive Director of the NW Swan Conservation Association. With her background, she is refilling an important gap in PAS's relationship with WDFW. PAS has long supported additional funding of WDFW habitat protection and recovery, and enforcement of agency regulations. With Martha's guidance, we are joining with the Eastside Chapter (Jeremy Lucas) to better support and assist WDFW management and research in the vast Snohomish River watershed, which includes the Skykomish and Snoqualmie watersheds, some of which are in King County. This especially to rebuild stewardship of public wildlife refuge areas.

Laurel Cheap, PAS Member-at-Large, is a UW software engineer. She does important outreach to the schools in Snohomish County through PAS scholarships/conservation awards, to help teachers and students accomplish conservation projects inside and outside of schoolrooms. She oversees the PAS Zalesky Classroom Conservation Grants program.

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Kathy Johnson, PAS Member-at-Large, is a small animal vet. She chairs the Forest Practices Subcommittee, which is part of the Conservation Committee. She continues her long-time work tracking national forest management and preservation activities primarily on the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, and now DNR-managed trust lands in Snohomish County. She represents PAS on a joint county-federal advisory team concerning future management of the Mountain Loop Highway, and works with other forestry and preservation-minded groups in WA State on shared issues.

Teddie Phillipson-Mower is new to the PAS. She, working with Brian and other PAS members, is revitalizing our Education Committee, with new focus upon outreach to educators in public and private schools at all levels. She comes to us from the Indiana University Bloomington Integrated Program in the Environment, coordinating the Indiana State and Regional Environment(s). She is a project specialist for broadening environment research impacts and participation (making research more accessible to the general public). She was very active in the Sassafras Audubon Society in the Indianapolis area. Teddie and her husband moved to Stanwood in early 2021 to be caregivers for her husband's mother. Sadly, the mother passed away recently.

Laurel, and Jim Beneteau who "retired" a year ago from our Membership Chair post, are assisting Teddie. Jim continues to advise the board on various other matters and remains an important connection with the Everett Children's Museum on behalf of PAS.

Jay Ward is a Member-at-Large and is a member of the Conservation Committee. He used to work for the WA Dept. of Fisheries in stream clean-up and habitat repair. He came to PAS years ago to help improve wildlife refuges with installation of birdhouses and other improvements; some requiring heavy equipment to install large nesting platforms. He also helped Martha Jordan in gathering up injured swans for medical treatment. If dead swans were found, he would bring them to Martha, to be examined for cause of death. We appreciate his hands-on skills and practical reminders!

Always vitally important to PAS members is Carolyn Lacy, **PROFILE** editor since April 2016. Before being editor, she was PAS Treasurer for many years. She is editor and publisher, and has the challenge of newsletter design, format, and Chief Grammarian! She takes what we occasional and frequent contributors send to her. Some writers need little to no help with their products. I'm among those needing her sharp eyes to appear to be a better writer than I am. Of special concern to her is that readers be able to make sense of what we produce.

Always, many thanks to Field Trip Leaders Virginia Clark and Art Wait, Phil Dickinson, Wilma Bayles, Jonathan Blubaugh, and Jim Beneteau. There have been other leaders whom I have not met. This past year, the PAS Field Trips were shelved until PAS could develop a way to continue them, consistent with important state health direction and guidelines.

Mentioned in the April 2021 PROFILE, we shared with readers that Art Wait passed away on March 8, 2021. He was a Boeing retiree. Art jointly worked with Virginia and others for many years with the Tuesday Field Trip gang, both as guides and maintaining sighting records. These go back decades, I understand. Virginia with new helpers has continued the field trips, once again being held per whatever the state health requirements/guidelines. We definitely miss Art's special humor and observations! A memorial service was held last July in Snohomish.

Others of the extended leadership team carrying on important work include Mara Price, stalwart accumulator of bird sightings, so thanks to those who provide their sightings to Mara; Sherrill Miller, Community Science Coordinator, who assists in so many ways at our exhibits and special events such as Vaux's Swift Night Out in Monroe and Puget Sound Bird Fest at Edmonds. Many PAS members and friends help, too.

Terry Nightingale, former PAS Vice President, continues as our Webmaster, working his magic with Brian, Judy, and Carolyn. We are so grateful that he is able to continue helping us in expanding social media contact with our members and the new outreach opportunities developed by Brian and Teddie for workshops and programs.

In past years, David Gladstone has provided legal advice. We've not had much going on that needs legal consultation, but we want to recognize his help in years past.

Kristin Kelly, former executive director of PAS and Smart Growth Snohomish County Director, is working with Brian and me in Snohomish County Parks' planning of Lord Hill Regional Park. We are part of an emerging coalition of user groups of the park wanting part of the park to be a place of quiet and safety, where wildlife habitat is free of development. Kristin represents PAS on an advisory group appointed by the County. In 2016, she and Cindy Easterson were much involved in park planning, which was shelved until recently. There is no lack of user preferences, some in apparent conflict. We understand, at present, preference decision by the County Parks Board is anticipated sometime next year. At the present time, we understand that the County Council is not involved in the decision. I have sent

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President's Report, Continued from Page 10

letters to PAS members stating our position and encouraging them to urge their County Council members to consider the stance of undisturbed habitat, which is shared with other user groups.

As noted elsewhere in this PROFILE, Mandy Weger, Communications Chair, is leaving us for business and personal interests. There is a vacancy to fill in the New Year. She joined us little more than a year ago, with focus upon updating our publication *Birding in Snohomish County*, a project on our to-do list for a long time. Most of the heavy lifting has been completed, so many thanks to Mandy!

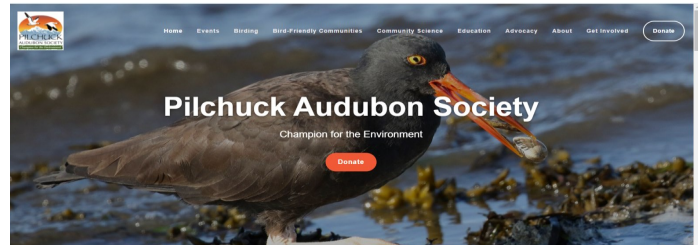
Brian Zinke, Executive Director, has provided outstanding leadership across the wide range of PAS work. Do read his 2021 review elsewhere in this PROFILE. He, with his knowledge about social media opportunities our board had only dreamed about doing, has accomplished tremendous positive exposure to PAS programs and workshops. Other chapters are consulting him about developing opportunities for those chapters. Outreach to organizations in Snohomish and King counties invite him for programs about birds and Audubon's mission tied to climate change. We are also involved with other Snohomish County-based organizations working with the *The Everett Herald's* efforts to restore its once excellent coverage of environmental and conservation issues. He along with Jamie, Judy, and this writer are involved in the EDIB project.

Look in February PROFILE for information about our April election. 🦅

Jan van Niel Bequest

The passing of Jan van Niel on Sunday, October 18, 2020, was brought to our attention last year by Susie Schaefer, a long-time friend to the van Niel family. The estate proceedings have been completed, and the Pilchuck Audubon Society board has been advised of a \$5,000 bequest, to be used as the board wishes.

The board is considering how best to use the funds in ways that honor the many years of leadership provided by Jan and his wife, Sally. They were among the ten founders of Pilchuck Audubon Society, holding various offices through the years. Jan was Conservation Chair at the time of his "retirement" in 2011. Both held the office of president several times. Both Jan and Sally taught biology at Everett Community College from 1971 to 1999. Sally preceded Jan in death on November 20, 2007. Jan is survived by his wife, Colleen. Jan and Sally are survived by their daughters, Kristina van Niel and Lisa McConnell. 🦅



Have you seen the new website updates?

We've been working hard to update our website (pilchuckaudubon.org) recently to make it an even better resource for you. While we still have several pages we're currently working on, here are the latest updates:

Under the "Birding" tab

- New [Birding Resources](#) page
- New [Report a Banded Bird](#) page
- New [Sick, Injured, or Dead Birds](#) page

Under the "Education" tab

- New [Audubon for Kids](#) page
- New [Outreach Programs](#) page

We also split out the former "Conservation" tab into two new tabs, the "Bird-friendly Communities" tab and the "Community Science" tab.

Under the "Bird-friendly Communities" tab

- New [Climate Change](#) page
- We'll also be updating the current pages and adding more in the future covering topics such as Audubon's Lights Out initiative, Bird-friendly Buildings initiative, domestic cats, and more!

Under the "Community Science" tab

- Here you'll find all of our current projects that are powered by **you!**
- Most of these pages will be getting a facelift soon, as well

Stay tuned for more updates in the near future! 🦅



Olympic Birdfest
April 22-24, 2022

SAVE THE DATE

Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours, live auction, raffle, gala banquet, and more.

Join our festival pre-trip: a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands, April 19-21, 2022. To learn more and register, visit www.olympicbirdfest.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.

- Student \$15
 - Senior \$30
 - Adult \$35
 - Family \$50
 - Lifetime Member (one-time payment)..... \$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 _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
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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.

TRIP CALENDAR

Check our website, <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming-trips>, for the latest information

Birding Trips — See Page 6



In Case You Missed It ...

We certainly miss seeing everyone in person. However, one of the benefits of online programs is that we can record them. We know you all have busy lives and can't always make the live presentations, so in case you missed one, below are the links to watch our line-up of recent programs. Enjoy!

A Dead Tree's Excellent Adventure

Presentation by Ken Bevis
Washington Dept. of Natural Resources
[Watch the Recording](#)

Making Your Yard a Bird Haven

Presentation by Kim Adelson
[Watch the Recording](#)

Measuring the Impact of Military Flights on the Olympic Peninsula Soundscape

Presentation by Lauren Kuehne
[Watch the Recording](#)

Snohomish PUD Natural Resource Protections

Presentation by Laura Zorick
[Watch the Recording](#)

Dead Birds Do Tell Tales: A Citizen Science Story

Presentation by Dr. Julia Parrish
[Watch the Recording](#)

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 425.232.6811.

The monthly Profile is available online at www.pilchuckaudubon.org

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Pilchuck Audubon Society

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