

June Program Meeting

Birds and Berries

Guest Speaker: Peter Zika

****Please note, this program will not be recorded****

Little is known about the interactions between our urban bird life and the numerous fruit-bearing shrubs and trees that brighten up our greenbelts. This talk by Peter Zika examines what species of birds consume the fruits and are necessary to spread the seeds of some of our native species like madrone and bitter cherry. Showy fruits serve to attract a surprising diversity of avians. Yet some of the same birds also gobble down the berries of our worst pests like ivy and blackberry. Meet some of our feathered friends as they reveal their broad dietary interests. Learn a little about urban seed predators, and puzzle over the mysteries of seed dispersal for snowberry and stinking iris.

Peter is a field biologist from Seattle, investigating and describing new species of plants from western North America. Working at the herbarium of the University of Washington, he is contributing new treatments to the published floras of California, Oregon, and the Pacific Northwest. He teaches wetland plant identification, and conducts biological inventories of National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, and Nature Conservancy preserves. An active birder, he has long studied the diet of fruit-eating birds. His interests have led him to the tropics and into polar regions over the last 30 years. Peter has published numerous scientific notes, articles, and books, as well as occasional photographs, cards, and reviews in the popular press.

When:

June 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Where:

Online

Register for Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0qfu-rqjwqEtyyoyCiQ-2mM5kQ9S4DLHTg>



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President's Report

by Bill Derry

On May 11, Brian and I enjoyed a tour of the new Blue Heron Slough restoration project led by Emma Leedy, Erik Gerking and Jacob Kirschner from the Port of Everett. It is just north of the County's Smith Island restoration project on the east side of I-5.



Blue Heron Slough is named after the heronry on the site where we saw active nesting. It's another tremendous restoration project in the Snohomish delta. I believe that together with the other restoration projects in the delta that this is one of the largest, if not the largest, estuary restorations in the country.

Public access is limited to one overlook. I was disappointed until they explained that limiting public access was requested by the Tulalip Tribes. Throughout the region we are witnessing crowded trails and overflow parking at trailheads. We need some places left just for wildlife. Once I heard this explanation, I agreed. So, enjoy the benefits that this project offers to birds, fish, and wildlife from I-5 or from the overlook. By the way, at 353 acres this project is larger than the developed parts of the Port of Everett.



On another note, I have been hosting **Green Drinks Edmonds** for the last three months. We have had around 50 people attending. In May, we heard a brief presentation from Marilyn and Mike Mallory about Climate Alliance of Snohomish County and the Climate Reality Project. Each month we will have a brief introduction from other environmental groups in Snohomish County.

We have settled on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6pm at the Salish Sea Brewing Company Boathouse in Harbor Square in Edmonds. The next one will be **June 22**. Come on out. it's fun and a nice way to meet new people with similar interests.

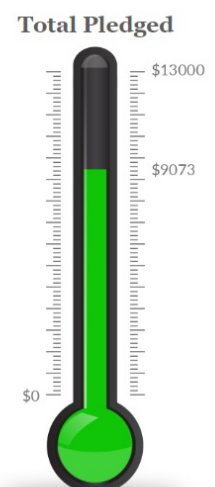
Birdathon Update

We just wrapped up the birding portion of this year's Birdathon. Judging of the photo contest will begin soon! While we await the results of both of those competitions, there's still time for you to help us reach our fundraising goal.

Our goal this year is \$13,000, but we're still short of that.

Your generous donation today will help ensure that we can continue to organize and coordinate local community science projects, provide outreach to schools, libraries, and other community groups, and advocate for bird-friendly policies.

[Donate to our Birdathon Today!](#)



PAS to Keep "Audubon" in its Name

You're likely aware of the conversations that have been had over the past year surrounding the legacy of John James Audubon (if not, you can [learn more about his racist views and character flaws here](#)). These conversations have prompted the national organization and chapters to review how having "Audubon" in the name affects the mission, communities served, and effectiveness of the brand. You're also likely aware that the National Audubon Society has decided to retain its name, whereas the Seattle chapter has opted to change its name.

Our Board has discussed this issue over the past year, and has solicited and listened to feedback from you and our community members. At present, the Board has decided not to change our chapter's name. However, the Board understands this to be an ongoing discussion it will continue to monitor, and does not rule out a change in the future.

The Board acknowledges the abhorrent beliefs that John James Audubon held regarding race and slavery. We do not celebrate these aspects of the man. We condemn them. While we cannot change the past, we are laying the groundwork for a better future.

Going forward our chapter will focus on better serving all communities in Snohomish County and Camano Island, and strive to be more equitable and inclusive in all our programs, projects, and initiatives. We look forward to working more with all the diverse communities in our area, and invite and welcome all to our organization.

Sincerely,
Your Pilchuck Audubon Society Board of Directors

If you have suggestions, ideas, or tips on how we can become a more inclusive, diverse, and equitable organization, please do reach out to us!

Bird Walks at Ronald Bog Park and Hamlin Park, May 6, 2023

Trip Report by Douglas Resnick

Our group of seven met in the parking lot of Ronald Bog Park. The showers that were falling seemed to have encouraged the presence of some wildlife. Before we started walking, we were able to observe numerous

Canada Geese and goslings on the lawn beside the lot, along with a couple of Mallards and an American Crow. It took us a while to realize that there was another goose present, this one sitting still atop the park's moss-covered kiosk, perhaps upon a nest.

Our route around the park had a sort of "U" shape. We began in the northeast section of the park, site of the Pacific Northwest Conifer Arboretum, described in detail on the kiosk. We then proceeded westward, stopping at the shelter beside the park's pond, where we listened to the singing of a Wilson's Warbler. As we resumed walking, we saw a pair of geese land in a large tree, apparently nesting there, and we heard a Killdeer call out. After we rounded the corner of 175th and Meridian, we caught sight, between its dives into the pond, of a Pied-billed Grebe. After turning the next corner, we came upon a pair of Brown-headed Cowbirds engaged in apparent courtship while perched on a parked car's side-view mirror. When we reached the pond's southern viewpoint on 172nd, we could see that the geese in the tree had taken over a nest that had earlier in the season been used by a pair of eagles. We reversed our "U," pausing along the

northern arm twice, the better to appreciate a group of Yellow-rumped Warblers and a nearby sculpture, "The Ponies."



The second part of the walk was at Hamlin Park. There are lots of trails here. Our route began at the parking lot on 160th, aka Hamlin Park Road. We proceeded eastward along the nearby paved trail, then northward and onto the unpaved trail with primitive stairs that started

at the Cascade Orienteering Club's sign. American Robins sang often as we worked our way to the northeast corner of the park at 165th and 22nd. We also heard frequent calls from a Pacific-slope Flycatcher. We soon changed course to the southwest in order to reach the park's main trail near its southern start; the Black-throated Gray Warbler's song accompanied us. A Common Raven called several times, as we proceeded onward and through a meadow, until we reached the northern

end of the main trail at 168th and 16th. The route up to this point had been easy to follow, but the return trip to the parking lot through the western side of the park required careful consideration. During this part of the journey, we saw an Anna's Hummingbird and heard a Hutton's Vireo.

In sum, our observations, as reported in eBird, included 34 species. To cap off our morning, several of us adjourned to Snohomish Pie Co. in Mountlake Terrace for lunch.

Virginia Clark Friends and Family Annual Picnic

By Doug Cooper, Allen Gibbs, and Wilma Bayes

Planning continues for this wonderful event honoring Virginia Clark, a longtime leader of Pilchuck Audubon Society.

Date: Sunday, July 16, 2023

Place: Langus Park Pavilion, an Everett city park on the shoreline of the Snohomish River.
400 Smith Island Road, Everett 98201.

Schedule

- 10 AM:** Setup at the pavilion
10-11:30 AM: Birding trips on nearby Spenser Island; led by Jeff Hambleton and others
Noon-1 PM: Potluck lunch
1-2 PM: Program led by Bill Derry, PAS President. Family and friends sharing stories about Virginia
3-3:30 PM: Cleanup of the picnic site

Virginia Clark Remembrance Wall

A poster board will be available to temporarily attach photos. A table will be set up to hold special items.

Field Trip registration

Pre-register with Jeff Hambleton at j.hambleton@comcast.net. There is no group size limit. Parking is limited at the Spenser Island access point. There is no public parking right at the trailhead. A short walk is necessary from the parking site. Good birding along that short walk!

WE WILL NEED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP MAKE THIS EVENT A SUCCESS!

Potluck Items to be provided by attendees

Please contact Doug Cooper (dvcjcoop@gmail.com) or Allen Gibbs (agibbspr@gmail.com) to let them know if you will bring items to the picnic.

- Appetizers: Raw veggies and dips; deviled eggs; other?
Entrees: Pork and beans; meatball dishes; other?
hot dogs (beef and chicken) and fixings will be supplied by the-PAS Board.
Cold Salads: Fruit; pasta; potato; green; pea; other?
Other stuff: Variety of chips and "chippy things;" other?
Beverages: Gibbs will bring coffee, condiments, and assorted cold beverages with ice.
Desserts: Pies (by volunteers); other goodies?

Note from Wilma Bayes, PAS potluck expert!

If you like baking pies, we would love for you to bring one to honor of memory of Virginia. We all remember the pies she baked for us at picnics at her Arlington home. For the non-pie bakers, bring something from the above selections rather than pies, to have a more diverse potluck to share.

Other items:

Please bring folding chairs. Picnic tables/seating are available, but we may need more. If you can bring portable tables for serving and feasting, let Doug Cooper know.

Eating and serving utensils and table covers will be provided by the PAS Board.

Help with the morning setup begins at 10 AM. Cleanup begins at the site around 3 PM.

Please let Doug or Allen know if you want to help with this work.

Cleaning supplies and containers for sorting of "trash" and composting will be provided.

The July PROFILE

By the end of June, we will have a good idea of how the picnic potluck menu is shaping up, where it is "light" and where it is enough. So, if some attendees have not signed up by then on the menu list, we will have a list of items where we are short.



Photo by Doug Cooper



Coming to a Library Near You: An Introduction to Birding with Brian Zinke

Tuesday, June 13 at 6pm – Mukilteo Public Library

An Introduction to Birding

Birding is one of the most popular activities in the country, with an estimated 45 million birders in the U.S. But what is it about birds that engages and captivates so many of us? Join us for an in-person presentation about the joys of birds and birding, how you can get started as a birder yourself (or pick up some new tips if you already are one), and review etiquette and helpful resources.

For more information, please visit: <https://sno-isle.bibliocommons.com/events/6435a50ec8f596093a2b3d48>

**Thursday, June 15 at 6pm –
Everett Public Library**

An Introduction to Birding in Everett

Myth: You can only see interesting birds if you travel a long way from home.

Fact: Cool and exciting birds are everywhere, even in urban/suburban areas like Everett!

Join Brian Zinke to learn about the many birding hotspots in Everett and some of the general basics of birding. Plus, he'll be introducing the brand new Birding Backpacks that Pilchuck Audubon has provided the Everett Public Library which you'll be able to borrow for your own birding adventures!

For more information, please visit: <https://epls.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=5490&calType=0&day=11&month=6&year=2023>

Thursday, June 15 @ 6 p.m.

An Introduction to
**BIRDING
IN EVERETT**
with
BRIAN ZINKE
Executive Director of Pilchuck Audubon Society

Main Library
2702 Hoyt Ave

PILCHUCK
AUDUBON SOCIETY
Champion for the Environment

EVERETT
WASHINGTON

EVERETT PUBLIC
LIBRARY

Photo by Mick Thompson

US Supreme Court further curtails EPA authority concerning wetlands – not a surprise

The EPA's authority to protect wetlands was undercut again by this May 25th decision. Last year, the court limited EPA's authority as a regulatory agency to address climate change under the Clean Water Act. It would be incorrect to assume that the rulings split along "conservative" and "liberal" lines. Quoting from a May 26th *New York Times* story, "On Thursday, all nine justices agreed the agency (EPA) had gone too far in seeking to regulate the Sacketts' property in N. Idaho." However, there is less consensus about other issues.

The ruling refers to property owned by Michael and Chantell Sackett at Priest Lake in North Idaho. They had begun developing a soggy residential lot in 2007 to build a mansion by filling in the land with sand and gravel. The State of Idaho had refused the permit for them to do so.

The Supreme Court had twice before heard from Idaho and federal agencies and courts. All states and US territories have tracked this case because of its potentially precedence-setting ruling.

I strongly urge everyone to read stories about this case to better understand the complexities of water law, and to understand the history, benefits, confusion, and lack of clarity about state and federal administrative agencies' authority over the decades. Some justices point to Congress's lack of clarity in writing the Clean Water Act (1972).

There has been some consideration in Washington State's legislature, the governor's office, and state regulatory agencies concerning these Supreme Court matters, even before the rulings in this case. Lack of clarity is the primary concern for regulatory authorities on water matters. What belongs to the federal government? What can be shared with the states?

House Resolution 195 has been reintroduced by Colorado Congressman Joe Neguse. It calls for the creation of a National Biodiversity Strategy. Both National Audubon and Pilchuck Audubon signed a group letter in support of the resolution this April. The letter was developed by Defenders of Wildlife. PAS signed a similar group letter in 2022.

The Biden administration recently started developing a National Nature Assessment to better understand biodiversity loss and to provide a strong scientific foundation for federal, state and tribal governments to mitigate the leading drivers of species loss. National Audubon is tracking the matter.

Washington Watershed Restoration Initiative (WWRI)

PAS recently signed a joint letter to the PNW Regional Forester, requesting that office reestablish an annual process for funding select road projects in Oregon and Washington national forests, as required by federal law. Those projects will allow the removal of national forest roads no longer needed, and allow restoration of wildlife and aquatic habitat. Federal law also requires opportunities for the public, state agencies and tribes to comment..



PAS with other conservation groups is a member of the Washington Watershed Restoration Initiative (WWRI). Pilchuck Audubon was among the founders of the WWRI in the early 2000s. During the Trump administration, that process of consultation "disappeared." We have long had the support of most of the Washington and Oregon congressional delegations. Even bipartisan support at times. The Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie, Olympic and Gifford Pinchot national forest groups were supportive back in the day. We look forward to a positive response by Acting Regional Forester Liz Berger.

Snohomish County

The PAS Board has been invited by Snohomish County Surface Water Management (SWM) to a field trip on June 13 at **Chinook Marsh** in the Snohomish River estuary. The marsh is proposed for restoration. PAS will participate in the field trip. Due to very limited parking space, only a few PAS folks will be able to attend.

Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) will host a ZOOM event on June 1st concerning the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). The plan provides a common vision for public funding of outdoor recreation and conservation priorities and a roadmap to implement that vision. State, federal, and local land managers participated in developing the plan, which will advance statewide priorities over the next 5-10 years. There were five public surveys and direct outreach initiatives to gain input. A grant from the National Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund helped develop the plan. Allen Gibbs will attend the event.

Continued on Page 7

Conservation Report continued

Save Westport Light State Park's unique and rare coastal dune habitat. In 2016, this state park was one of four designated as a pilot to include private development of recreational facilities. It has recently been brought to our attention that a golf course concession has been proposed. The City of Westport, which is the acting State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) lead agency for this proposal, has determined that an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) is necessary.

PAS and other Washington State Audubon chapters have been very interested in such proposals for development since the 1990s. PAS, under the leadership of Sally and Jan Van Niel, who were Conservation Chairs, participated in discussions at several Audubon Council of Washington (ACOW)

conferences where the Grays Harbor Audubon Chapter gave presentations and tours of the area. At the time, a developer proposed a condo resort on nearby private ground. Fortunately, they subsequently lost funding and interest.

PAS Board has recently joined other chapters, Audubon Washington, and Friends of Grays Harbor in submitting comments. We all, on short notice, had to learn what is involved in a very complex situation, requiring a mix of local, state and federal permits. A Zoom call of interested Audubon chapters, our state office, and Friends of Grays Harbor enabled some PAS board members to learn more about this situation. Stay tuned.

Become a Citizen Scientist!

The Puget Sound Seabird Survey is looking for birders in Snohomish County - in particular the Everett and Tulalip areas - to join this established Community Science program. Volunteers are asked to conduct 7 surveys with a small team of fellow surveyors at specific locations throughout the Sound.

All surveys are synchronized to take place once per month on the first Saturday, October – April. You will be provided training in the survey technique. Ideally, volunteers will have good seabird identification skills; however, there are roles on the survey teams for birders of all levels. Now in its 15th season, you'll be contributing to valuable science that monitors wintering seabirds across Puget Sound and informs important management decisions.



Photo by Doug Schurman



Photo by Toby Ross

Previously, the project was part of Birds Connect Seattle's (formerly Seattle Audubon) science program. As of 2022, Puget Sound Seabird Survey is now part of Puget Sound Bird Observatory. More information can be found on our [website](#).

If you are interested in taking part, please reach out to Program Manager Toby Ross at t_ross@pugetsoundbirds.org



BACKYARD BIRDING

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

March 26 - April 25, 2023

Carol and Larry Beason's report from Snohomish includes 3 American Crows, 4 American Goldfinches, 21 American Robins, 4 Anna's Hummingbirds, a Bald Eagle in the Hemlock Trees, 3 Brown-headed Cowbirds, 4 Black-capped Chickadees, 4 Brewer's Blackbirds, a Band-tailed Pigeon on top of the feeder, 8 Buffleheads on the lake, 7 Canada Geese on the lake, 3 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, a Common Loon, a Common Raven overhead, 7 Common Mergansers on the lake, 9 Dark-eyed Juncos, 3 Double-crested Cormorants, 2 Downy Woodpeckers at the suet, 9 European Starlings, 5 Golden-crowned Sparrows, 2 Hairy Woodpeckers, a Hutton's Vireo on a rose, 2 Lesser Scaups, 2 Mallard Ducks on the lake, 8 Mourning Doves, 2 Northern Flickers, 8 Purple Finches, 3 Red-tailed Hawks near the road, 30 Red-winged Blackbirds, 2 Ring-necked Ducks on the lake, 2 Rufous Hummingbirds, 3 Song Sparrows, 5 Spotted Towhees on the deck, 4 Steller's Jays, 40+ Violet-Green Swallows over the lake, 2 White-crowned Sparrows, and 2 Wood Ducks under the feeders for a total species count of 37.

Reporting from Edmonds, Sarah & Paul Bueren's report included 7 American Crows, 6 Dark-eyed Juncos, 2 Townsend's Warblers, 2 Pileated Woodpeckers, 3 Northern Flickers, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, a Turkey Vulture, 2 Spotted Towhees, a Bewick's Wren, a Orange-crowned Warbler, 4 Band-tailed Pigeons, a Bald Eagle flying over, 2 Golden-crowned Kinglets, a Common Raven, 8 Violet-Green Swallows, a House Finch, 4 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 3 Black-capped Chickadees, a Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and 2 Tree Swallows for a total species count of 22.

Hilkka Egtvedt's report from Mukilteo included 7 Band-tailed Pigeons, 2 Mourning Doves, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 2 Hairy Woodpeckers, 2 Northern Flickers, a Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Steller's Jays, 2 American Crows, a Black-capped Chickadee, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Bewick's Wren, an American Robin, 7 European Starlings, 2 spotted Towhees, a Golden-crowned Sparrow, a Song Sparrow, a Dark-eyed Junco,

5 Purple Finches, 6 House Finches, and 3 American Goldfinches for a total species count of 21.

Kriss Erikson's report from Everett included 16 Black-capped Chickadees, 6 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 2 Bewick's Wrens, 4 Steller's Jays, 22 Bushtits, 9 American Crows, 12 Western Gulls flying over, 7 American Robins, 5 House Finches, 3 Spotted Towhees, 2 Downy Woodpeckers, 4 Northern Flickers, 4 Song Sparrows, 16 European Starlings, 3 Mallard Ducks, 6 Dark-eyed Juncos, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 2 Varied Thrushes, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 2 Bald Eagles flying over, 3 Western Goldfinches, 12 Snow Geese flying over, and 6 Golden-crowned Sparrows for a total species count of 23.

Reporting from Everett, Maureen Schmitz listed a Pileated Woodpecker, 4 American Crows, a Bewick's Wren, 3 House Finches, 3 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 Dark-eyed Juncos, 2 Spotted Towhees, 3 Bushtits, a White-crowned Sparrow in the birdbath, 2 Downy Woodpeckers, 2 Northern Flickers, 3 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 2 Song Sparrows, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, an Osprey flying over, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, 4 Band-tailed Pigeons, and 2 Bald Eagles flying over for a total species count of 18.

My report from Marysville included 3 American Crows, 8 American Robins, 2 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 6 Dark-eyed Juncos, 2 Hairy Woodpeckers, a Downy Woodpecker, 30+ European Starlings along the road, 3 Northern Flickers, 12 Mallard Ducks in the fields, a Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Steller's Jays, a Varied Thrush, 3 Spotted Towhees, 3 Song Sparrows, 2 Bewick's Wrens, a Cooper's Hawk on the feeders, 3 House Finches, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 Mourning Doves, 4 Canada Geese flying over, a House Sparrow, and a White-crowned Sparrow for a total species count of 24.

If you are interested in joining our Backyard Birding Highlights, please contact me at (425) 750-8125 or email me at pricemara1@gmail.com.

Birding Field Trips

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

Saturday, June 3 Near Lynnwood Library

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Trip Leader: Douglas Resnick,
dresnick1@comcast.net or 425-776-4811 (landline)

This is a half-day trip. We'll visit several birding sites near the Lynnwood Library. The walk will cover a distance of several miles, with no big hills. Some of the ground may be wet, depending on the weather; so, hiking boots are recommended. Also, there may be noise from nearby traffic. Further details will be provided to registered participants. After you have submitted your **2023 Field Trip Liability Release** online, please contact the trip leader in order to register for the trip.

Tuesday, June 6 Sedro-Woolley to Newhalem

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Trip Leader: Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760

Meet at 7:00 AM at the 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). After looking for bitterns and buntings at Northern States Recreation Area, we will visit hotspots along Hwy. 20 through Lyman, Rockport Marblemount and even Newhalem where American Redstart and Red-eyed Vireo are possibilities. Pack a lunch.

Tuesday, June 13 Ellensburg Area

6:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Trip Leader: Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760

Meet at 6:00 AM at the Monroe Park & Ride next to the Evergreen Fairgrounds on Hwy. 2. Seattle and Edmonds participants will meet us at Snoqualmie Pass 7:15 - 7:30 AM. We will bird along Thorpe Rd., Taneum Creek, Yakima Canyon, and Umptanum Rd. in search of central Washington sagebrush and riparian specialties. Pack a lunch.

Tuesday, June 20 Camano Island

7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Trip Leader: Graham Hutchison, 425-890-0723

Meet at 7:30 AM at the 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). This trip will be shorter than recent itineraries but promises a good selection of species at locations like English Boom,

2023 Field Trip Waivers

All field trip participants must sign an annual liability waiver. This year's waiver is an online form, which can be found at the top of our [Upcoming Trips](#) page of our website or at this link: [2023 Field Trip Liability Release](#). Even if you've recently signed a 2022 waiver, we'll need you to sign a new one for the current year. Thank you!

Please review our current field trip guidelines as relates to COVID-19 [here](#).

Maple Grove, Barnum Point, and Iverson Point. Pack a lunch.

Tuesday, June 27 North Whidbey Island

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Trip Leader: Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760

Meet at 7:00 AM at the 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). Fidalgo Island and North Whidbey Island offer a variety of lake and waterfront settings, including March Point, Campbell Lake, Rosario Beach, Deception Pass, and Dugualla Bay. There will be good opportunities to see breeding songbirds too. Pack a lunch.

Saturday, July 1 Kenmore and Kirkland

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Trip Leader: Douglas Resnick
dresnick1@comcast.net or 425-776-4811 (landline)

This is a half-day trip. We will visit Saint Edward State Park in Kenmore (Discovery Pass required for parking) and Juanita Bay Park in Kirkland. The walk will cover a distance of several miles with no big hills. Some of the ground may be wet, so hiking boots are recommended. Further details will be provided to registered participants. After you have submitted your 2023 Field Trip Liability Release via <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming-trips> please contact the trip leader in order to register for the trip.



In Memory of Curt Howard 1923-2023

Curt Howard was one of the early leaders of PAS, serving as chapter President (1983-87), Vice President (1981-83), Secretary (1989-91), and Treasurer (1994 & 1995). He was involved in many chapter activities, including the Trees for Life program, Spring Watch, Snohomish Wetlands Alliance, Hazardous Waste Roundups (before Snohomish County had a recycling program), and traveled to Washington, D.C. to lobby for the protection of the Northern Spotted Owl.

He undoubtedly had an impact on conservation in our local areas, for which we are grateful. Below is his obituary, provided by his wife Suzanne Dailey Howard.

Curt Howard, age 99, of Tonasket and Okanogan, passed away quietly at home on January 25, 2023, after living a long and rich life pursuing his many passions.

Born the youngest of three boys in Wisconsin, Curt would recall that his vision was shaped by “a round the world all-expense paid cruise” he was sent on by his uncle. He meant Uncle Sam; and the trip was his WWII service in the U.S. Navy. After boot camp at Farragut, Idaho, he trained as a torpedo man and served on submarine, aircraft carrier and seaplane tender, traveling Atlantic and South Pacific Oceans, the Caribbean, and South China Seas.

After the war, this same “Uncle” provided Curt with an “all-inclusive four-year scholarship” to Stout Institute, where he received a degree in education. After teaching in Missoula for a year, he returned to Wisconsin to work as a partner at his first wife’s family farm.

Several years passed when Curt decided to “head west until he found a good job.” Luckily, it was at Boeing in Seattle because “you can’t get much further west.” It was in Washington State where he discovered many of his life-long passions: plants, mountains, and environmental stewardship. Spending every spare moment out in nature, climbing, hiking, exploring, and gardening, Curt eventually became his own boss as a general contractor, building homes in Washington and New Mexico to support his habit!



Curt became a master gardener, president of the South King County Rhododendron Society, and helped found the South King County Arboretum. He became president of Snohomish County Pilchuck Audubon Society. It was here that he met his future wife and partner of over 30 years, Suzanne.

Mountains never lost their allure for Curt. He taught beginning mountaineering at the University of Washington and led many climbs. Notably, he was involved in an expedition to climb glaciers in Greenland in 1971. He kept hiking, backpacking, and canoeing well into his 90s.

The final home Curt built was the homestead up on North Siwash Creek “from the dirt up.” Buying 40 acres of dirt with a 300-degree mountain view in 1998 was the ultimate paradise and challenge. Curt proceeded to tear down old buildings scheduled for demolition and build our home out of 90% recycled materials. There was no power, phone, etc. in the area at the time. Suzanne continued with her business to help bankroll their dream while Curt built. In 2006 they moved into Mariposa Slope where they stayed until Curt’s deteriorating health necessitated a move to the city of Okanogan.

Curt served on the board of the Community Cultural Center in Tonasket, was a lifetime member of the Tonasket Community Co-op and Green Okanogan, as well as a supporter of OHA and OVOC. Truly, Curt embraced the Okanogan Valley and the Okanogan Valley embraced him.

Curt was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers, his first wife, and many friends, notably Barbara Williams. He is survived by his wife, Suzanne Dailey Howard, and many friends, including Eiichi Fukushima, and the Liollas hiking group (Mary Ann and Byron Sutton, Julia McNeill and Lynn Chandler.)



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 _____
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.

Board of Directors

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Bird Sightings	Mara Price	360.772.5752
Community Science	Brian Zinke	director@pilchuckaudubon.org
Coordinator	vacant	communications@pilchuckaudubon.org
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Staff

Executive Director/	Brian Zinke	director@pilchuckaudubon.org
Development Director		

Trip Calendar

Check our website: [https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming trips](https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming%20trips),
for the latest information

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 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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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. In case you missed one, below are links to watch our line-up of recent programs. Enjoy!

Who are you calling a Bird Brain?

Presentation by Kim Adelson

[Watch the Recording](#)

Reconnecting Floodplain to Benefit People, Wildlife and Salmon

Presentation by Mike Rustay

[Watch the Recording](#)

Gardening for the Bees (and Birds)

Presentation by Dave Kollen

[Watch the Recording](#)

What is a Raptor Anyway?

Presentation by Thomas Bancroft

[Watch the Recording](#)

Get the Lead Out: Loons, Waterfowl and You

Presentation by Martha Jordan

[Watch the Recording](#)