

May Program Meeting

**Blue Heron Slough Restoration Project**

Guest Speakers: Erik Gerking and Emma Leedy

In this presentation, learn about the Port of Everett, environmental stewardship, and the Blue Heron Slough – the site’s history, the restoration process, and the benefits of the project.

Erik Gerking is the Director of Environmental Programs and Emma Leedy is the Events & Outreach Coordinator for the Port of Everett.

**When:**

May 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

**Where:**

Online

**Register for Meeting:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYvd-qvrTMqGdMj\\_nQUy2-z4P1z07IL6DA1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8441111111)



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## Pilchuck Audubon Society Name

Several people have asked me if we are going to change the name of Pilchuck Audubon Society. Our Board has had a brief discussion, but has come to no conclusions. This is a very difficult topic with strong feelings on both sides. Audubon was a brilliant ornithologist and painter. But he held despicable beliefs about black and indigenous peoples, which we abhor. I hope that we can use this issue to continue discussions about historic and on-going racism in our country. I've been thinking that perhaps we could add a statement to our logo or other graphics acknowledging Audubon's racism and stating our opposition. **Your thoughts are welcome.**

Contact me at [president@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:president@pilchuckaudubon.org). I hope that we can continue to have calm, respectful discussions about this.

## Green Drinks Edmonds

Thursday evening, April 27<sup>th</sup>, I hosted the second Green Drinks Edmonds at the Salish Sea Brewing Co. Boathouse. I counted 21 people attending and listening to a brief presentation by Marjie Fields and Kathleen Sears about the potential Edmonds Marsh and Estuary restoration. If any of you have ideas for other casual social events for environmentally-minded people, let me know.

**Good News Legislation passed and signed** (in case you haven't heard):

**Puget Sound:** The Shoreline Assessment Program bill ([SB 5104](#)) is a crucial step towards protecting and restoring the habitats of marine birds, salmon, and orcas. By establishing a program to assess the condition of Puget Sound shorelines, policymakers, scientists, and conservationists will have the necessary information to develop effective strategies to protect these habitats.

**Clean Energy Siting and Shrub-steppe Protection:** The clean energy siting bill ([HB 1216](#)) will help balance the protection of our natural and cultural heritage with the buildout of much-needed clean energy resources. With increased coordination among state agencies responsible for siting clean energy and better understanding of the impacts of the expected build-out of clean energy on natural and cultural resources.

**Climate Resilience:** With ([HB 1181](#)), local governments will be required to plan for a changing climate, working

in concert with other state policies to reduce carbon emissions and safeguard cherished landscapes.

**Plus,** lots of State and Federal funding for river and

estuary restoration which provides great habitat for birds as well as fish to feed birds and orcas. If this keeps up, we may reach the point where we're restoring more than we're destroying each year.

More details in Allen's Conservation Committee report (page 6).



**BYFOY:** On 26 April 2023, I saw a yellow warbler and a rufous hummingbird on the red-flowering current bush in my yard, first of the year for me.

Happy birding.

### In Memory of Curt Howard

It is with deep sadness that we learned of the passing of Curt Howard in January. Curt was a very active member of the chapter, including serving as President from 1983-1987. Curt had a hand in many of the chapter's early projects, and we will provide a more fitting tribute in next month's newsletter. If you knew Curt and have memories or stories to share, please send them to Brian Zinke at [director@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:director@pilchuckaudubon.org).

# Welcome Ann Kramer, our New Membership Committee Chair!

Ann Kramer calls herself a “climate refugee” from Southern California, where she lived for over 40 years. Born and raised in Wisconsin, her love of trees and seasonal changes never quite fit in with the endless summers of SoCal. Ann began volunteering in her 20’s at more than a dozen human service agencies as a paraprofessional counselor and volunteer coordinator before returning to school in her 30’s to complete her B.S. in Psychology and M.S. in Counseling Psychology at California State College, San Bernardino. She became licensed as a Marriage and Family Therapist in 1988 and served as President of the Inland Empire Chapter of the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists. During her two year tenure, the chapter doubled its membership. Ann managed a thriving couple and family therapy practice until her retirement in 2020 when she and her husband of 30 years moved to the PNW.

During that time, as a backyard bird enthusiast, she grew in awareness of the beauty of birds and became fascinated by their unique behaviors. She took up photography and jumped at the opportunity to learn from an award-winning conservation photographer, Melissa Groo at Hogg Island Audubon in Maine. She developed her photography skills through local and international travel and by attention to ethical field practices for wildlife photographers. She helped raise awareness at her camera club about the photographer’s impact on wildlife. Ann earned 2 “Best in Show” awards in her camera club and her images received recognition from NANPA, the National Association of Nature Photographers, “Share the View”, Kingbirder contest, and Audubon’s “Plants for Birds” awards. Her commitment to conservation and protection of wildlife, with especial passion for birds, led her to take the New Membership Chair position at Pilchuck Audubon Society.



Ann has also become a passionate PNW organic gardener with a focus on native plants and pollinator plants for wildlife. This year she installed a rain catchment system in conjunction with Snohomish Conservation District that will capture and reduce storm water runoff to help protect the Puget Sound. Having seen the impact of climate change and unregulated growth in Southern California, and the resulting drought and wildfires, she hopes to be a part of preventing the same outcome for the PNW. Whether it’s rainy or a beautiful, cloud-splattered, blue sky, watching the woodpeckers and passerines in her backyard habitat, the PNW takes her breath away and fortifies her commitment to protect wildlife and the environment.

## Grays Harbor Shorebird and Nature Festival May 5-7, 2023

Learn more about events for the 3-day celebration on the festival website,  
<https://www.shorebirdfestival.com>



Photo by  
David Hayden



Birdathon is our biggest fundraising event of the year, and all donations and entry fees provide critical support to our work throughout the year. Your donation helps ensure that we can focus our efforts on the vital work of conservation and education in our communities.

**Our goal is to raise \$13,000 this year!**

[Make A Donation Today!](#)

### **Global Big Day Field Trips: May 13**

As part of our Birdathon fundraiser this year, we are offering a few field trips led by experienced Pilchuck Audubon birders on May 13th, this year's Global Big Day!

As these field trips are fundraisers for our Birdathon, we are asking participants to make a donation of any amount prior to attending. For those who are not PAS members already, a donation of \$35 or more will include a one-year chapter membership.

These field trips will be limited to 10 participants each to ensure quality birding opportunities, so it's a first come first serve registration process.

#### **Current field trip offerings include:**

- Osprey Park (Sultan) with Jeff Hambleton (8-10am)
- Ebey Waterfront Trail (Marysville) with Phil Dickinson (8-10am)
- Barnum Point (Camano Island) with Graham Hutchison (8-11am)

#### To sign up, please:

1. [Complete the registration form](#)
2. Then [make a donation of any amount to our Birdathon](#). On the donation page, select "Birdathon Field Trip" in the dropdown menu.

We will provide exact meeting locations after registration. Please do not show up if you're not registered so we do not exceed manageable group sizes.

## Photography Contest –

### Now Accepting Submissions!

Our Birdathon photography contest is now accepting submissions!

Enter your best bird photos for a chance to win great prizes, including gift cards from our amazing sponsor [Kenmore Camera!](#)

All entry fees go to support our incredibly important work of protecting and giving voice to the birds, so please consider supporting us by entering or making a general donation to Birdathon. Thank you!

[Read the official contest rules and how to submit your photos.](#)

### Birding Competition

Join us for our friendly birding competition to see who can spot the most species in the month of May! This year we will have the following categories:

- **Big Day** - see as many species as you can in a 24-hour period anywhere in the world
- **Washington Big Month** - see as many species as you can anywhere in the state during the whole month
- **Global Big Month** - see as many species as you can anywhere in the world during the whole month

You can participate by yourself or on a team, and all are welcome to participate – even if you think you won't see many species, we hope you'll partake in this fun event with us!

To help us raise funds for the chapter, ask your friends, family, coworkers, etc. to sponsor your team, either with a flat donation (i.e., \$15) or with a per-species pledge (i.e., \$0.25 per species seen).

What are you waiting for? [Sign up today!](#)

### Support Our Birdathon

Perhaps you're not a photographer or are just a casual birder, but still want to help out. We would love to have your support with a donation and/or by sharing our fundraiser with your friends and family!

[You can submit your donation to our Birdathon here.](#)

**If you use social media, you can create your own fundraiser for Pilchuck Audubon, just follow the link below!**

[Create your own Facebook fundraiser for Pilchuck Audubon!](#)

[Learn how to create an Instagram fundraiser for Pilchuck Audubon!](#)

**Thank you all for your incredibly generous support! Your contributions allow us to continue our vital work, and we are incredibly grateful for you.**



**BIRDATHON  
PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST**  
Submissions accepted May 1 - May 31, 2023

Anna's Hummingbird  
By: Danielle Pettit, 2022 Pilchuck Audubon Birdathon

Learn more at:  
[www.pilchuckaudubon.org/birdathon](http://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/birdathon)

The following Washington Legislative Session report is by Adam Maxwell, Audubon Washington, Senior Policy Manager, and adapted here with his permission.

## **“2023 Legislative Session ends with a Hat Trick!”**

Audubon Washington and our more than 50,000 statewide members have reason to celebrate this month as the State Legislature passed three important conservation and climate bills. These policies will have a significant positive impact on habitat and communities in every corner of our state.

### **Puget Sound**

The Shoreline Assessment Program Bill ([SR 5104](#)) is a crucial step towards protecting and restoring the habitats of marine birds, salmon, and orcas. By establishing a program to assess the condition of Puget Sound shorelines, policymakers, scientists, and conservationists will have the necessary information to develop effective strategies to protect these habitats.

After missing a key cutoff deadline last year, we regrouped and managed to garner broad support from Republicans and Democrats alike. Ultimately, this bill passed out of the House with unanimous support!

### **Clean energy Siting and Shrub-steppe Protection**

The Clean Energy Siting Bill ([HB 1216](#)) is another critical piece of legislation that will help balance the protection of our natural and cultural heritage with the buildout of much-needed clean energy resources. With increased coordination among state agencies responsible for siting clean energy, this bill exemplifies efforts to make clean energy siting more efficient while protecting what makes Washington such a special place to call home.

Audubon Washington and our local chapters have been deeply engaged in advocating for shrub-steppe protection amidst a boom in clean energy proposals. We’ve also been spearheading policy innovation by engaging with decision-makers and stakeholders to promote policies to reach clean energy goals while protecting birds and the places they need to thrive.

### **Climate Resilience**

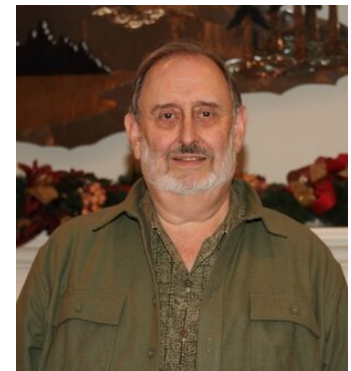
Lastly, the Climate Change Growth Management Bill ([HB 1181](#)) is a significant step towards local climate change planning and action. With this policy, local governments will be required to plan for a changing climate, and work with other state initiatives to reduce carbon emissions and safeguard cherished landscapes from the Palouse to Grays Harbor and beyond. In helping to pass this bill, the Audubon network has contributed to better planning in mitigating and adapting to climate change.

Passing ([HB 1181](#)) comes on the heels of two legislative sessions where the bill failed to pass at the end of those sessions. The third time truly is the charm!

The passage of these three bills is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our network of bird advocates for the protection of Washington’s environment and the many species that depend on it.

\* \* \* \* \*

Many thanks to Adam’s leadership! Also thanks to Pilchuck Audubon Society members who contributed to these successes! They signed up with the Audubon Network and sent email comments to their respective state legislators in support of these bills. The Pilchuck Board has sent letters in support of these policies over the past several years to key legislators of both parties.



If you are a PAS or National Audubon member and want to participate in future legislative sessions, please contact me through the [conservation@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:conservation@pilchuckaudubon.org) to learn how to join the network.

# Birding Field Trips

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

## Tuesday, May 2 South Whidbey

7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Trip Leader:** Wilma Bayes, 425-344-8599

Meet at 7:00 AM at Eastmont Park and Ride, I-5 exit 189, east side, aiming for the 7:30 AM ferry from Mulilteo. Sunset Beach, Deer Lagoon and Crockett Lake areas always yield a large and varied species list, and the rest of South Whidbey is great birding. Osprey, American White Pelican and migrating shorebirds will be some of our target birds. Pack a lunch. Dress for weather.

## Saturday, May 6 Ronald Bog and Hamlin Park

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM

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

This is a half-day trip. We'll meet at Ronald Bog Park and Hamlin Park in Shoreline. The first site is fairly flat, making for easy walking; there may be some noise from nearby traffic. The second is somewhat hilly; hiking boots may be useful. Further details will be provided to registered participants. Please contact the trip leader to register for this trip.

## Tuesday, May 9 Darrington

7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

**Trip Leader:** Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760

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). Interesting spring migrants often show up at birding hotspots along the road to Darrington and on the Sauk Prairie, including Mountain Bluebird, Say's Phoebe, Vesper Sparrow and Chipping Sparrow. Pack a lunch.

## Tuesday, May 16 Monroe to Carnation

7:30 AM - 5:00 PM

**Trip Leader:** Phil Dickinson, 336-692-3760

Meet at 7:30 AM at the Monroe Park and Ride next to Evergreen Fairgrounds on Hwy. 2. The Snoqualmie wetland in the Snoqualmie River Valley offers an array of spring migrants. Other stops include Tolt-McDonald Park, Sikes Lake and the Snoqualmie Valley Trail. Pack a lunch.

## 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**

## Tuesday, May 30 Leavenworth

6:15 AM - 5:00 PM

**Trip Leader:** Phil Dickinson 336-692-3760

Meet at 6:15 AM at the Monroe Park and Ride next to the Evergreen Fairgrounds on Hwy. 2. Popular destinations on this trip are Sleeping Lady Resort, the National Fish Hatchery and Camas Meadows. Target birds include White-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Calliope Hummingbird.

## Saturday, June 3 Near Lynnwood Library

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**Trip Leader:** Douglas Resnick, [dresnick1@comcast.net](mailto: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.

## Academica Latina Trip

### 11:00AM, Sunday, June 4 Richmond Beach

#### Saltwater Park

**Trip Leaders:** Rosamaria Graziani, Jonathan Blubaugh, and the staff of Seattle Aquarium  
425-244-7633, [aracfi@msn.com](mailto:aracfi@msn.com)

Please join **Academia Latina** and the Pilchuck Audubon Society for tidepooling at Richmond Beach Saltwater Park in Shoreline. Rosamaria Graziani, has arranged for staff from the Seattle Aquarium to lead a tidepool walk on a day with an unusually low tide. We will meet at 11:00AM in the lowest parking lot. From southbound Highway 99/Aurora Ave. N. turn right on N 185<sup>th</sup> St. (there is a Fred Meyer there). 185<sup>th</sup> becomes NW Richmond Beach Rd. Then it becomes NW 195<sup>th</sup> St. Turn left on 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW to enter the park. The address is 2021 NW 190th St, Shoreline, WA

Meadowdale Beach Park, also known as Meadowdale County Park, is partly in Edmonds and partly in unincorporated Snohomish County. Its main entrance can be reached only via some small streets north of Lynnwood. As a result, there is little ordinary traffic noise to be heard there, but navigating to the entrance requires careful study of a street map.

Our group of birders met in the parking lot at the end of the main entrance. The weather was cool, but no rain fell, a welcome change from the forecasts. We set forth on the park's one and only trail, which slopes downward for about one-half mile before leveling off, then continues to the shore of Puget Sound.

The first part of the trail is surrounded by trees and shrubs, and at some points it offers a view of Lund's Gulch Creek. While we walked among the trees, we heard many birds. A prominent voice was that of the Purple Finch. Some of the birds that called or sang also came out onto the trail from time to time; these included Song Sparrow, Spotted Towhee, and American Robin. Some of the smallest birds were at first elusive, but after continued searching we finally got good views of a Golden-crowned Kinglet and a Brown Creeper. We were also able to observe, at greater distance, a Downy Woodpecker and a Hairy Woodpecker.

As we approached the beach, we were able to see the changes in the contours of the land and in the course of the creek that had resulted from recent improvements in

the park. Railroad tracks still mark a separation between the beach and the rest of the park, but, instead of a lawn, there is now a wide, open area around the meandering creek east of the tracks, where we found a Great Blue Heron and a pair of Mallards. Also, there is a new tunnel under the tracks by which one can more comfortably reach the beach.

We did not stay long on the beach due to the wind, which was cold for birders and made for a visibly rough sea. We were there, long enough, however, to observe a large gathering of gulls some distance offshore; a few goldeneyes close to shore, bobbing up and down on the waves; a Bald Eagle overhead; and crows that began gathering on the beach just as we began to turn back.

A Killdeer called out, as we passed back through the developing estuary. When we reached the woods, we again encountered woodland birds, including a beautifully singing Ruby-crowned Kinglet, which displayed its red crown. We also heard the calls of Hutton's Vireo and Red-breasted Nuthatch. Finally, as we ascended the trail just before the parking lot, we saw a Red-tailed Hawk circling overhead.

In all, we spent a little over 3 hours walking a little under 3 miles and recording observations of 29 species plus 1 other taxon. Several of us completed the morning with lunch at Mel and Mia's in Edmonds.

## Upcoming Class

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

### Flora of the Lowland Forest [in the field]

May 13

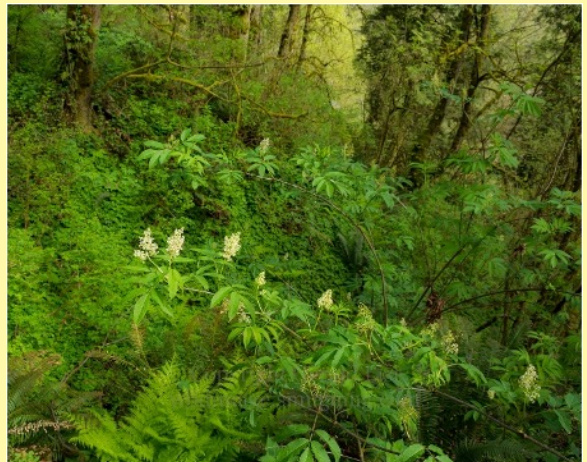
10am-noon (possible second class from 1pm-3pm if enough interest)

**Instructor:** Gerald Lisi

Join local naturalist Gerald Lisi for a casual stroll in Lord Hill Regional Park and become familiar with common trees, shrubs, and wildflowers of western Washington forests. Plant identification will be aided and enhanced with some basic botany and ecology of the species covered. Supplemental materials will be available to enhance retention.

Class will take place rain or shine!

Class size is limited to 10 participants to ensure quality instruction and interactions with Gerald. If there are enough interested people, Gerald is willing to lead a second session on the same day (May 13) from 1pm-3pm.



Pricing:

\$15 for PAS members

\$20 for non-members



# BACKYARD BIRDING

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

January 26 - February 25, 2023

Looks like the number of bird species for each area have gone down just a little. The number should increase when the weather warms up.

Carole and Larry Beason's total species count was 34. It included 15 Coots on the lake, 24 American Crows, 24 American Robins on the lawn, 3 Anna's Hummingbirds, a Bald Eagle duck-hunting over the lake, 2 Black-capped Chickadees, 7 Buffleheads on the lake, 14 Canada Geese, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 2 Common Ravens in the trees, 5 Common Mergansers, 28 Dark-eyed Juncos, 3 Double-Crested Cormorants, a Downy Woodpecker, 8 European Starlings, a Fox Sparrow on the patio, 13 Golden-crowned Sparrows in the chicken pen, 4 Hairy Woodpeckers, a Lesser Scaup, 15 Mallard Ducks on the lake, 16 Mourning Doves on the patio and in the shrubs, 3 Northern Flickers, 2 Hutton's Vireo, 2 Pied-billed Grebes, a Pileated Woodpecker, 24 Purple Finches at the feeders, a Red-Tailed Hawk along the road, 40+ Red-winged Blackbirds, 10 Ring-necked Ducks on the lake, 3 Song Sparrows, 16 Spotted Towhees, 14 Steller's Jays, a Winter Wren, and 2 Wood Ducks on the lake.

Sarah and Paul Bueren's report included 2 Anna's Humming Birds, 2 Pileated Woodpeckers, 5 Varied Thrushes, 2 Spotted Towhees, 22 Dark-eyed Juncos, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 2 Golden-crowned Kinglets, 3 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 2 Black-capped Chickadees, a Purple Finch, a Brown Creeper, a Townsend's Warbler, 2 Northern Flickers, a Downy Woodpecker, a Bald Eagle, a Song Sparrow, a Cooper's Hawk, and a Bewick's Wren for a total species count of 18.

Reporting from Everett, Hilka Egtvedt listed 2 Band-tailed Pigeons, 2 Eurasian Collared-Doves, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 2 Hairy Woodpeckers, 3 Northern Flickers, a Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Steller's Jays, 2 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 11 Bushtits, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Bewick's Wren, 2 Varied Thrushes, 5 European Starlings, a Townsend's Warbler, 2 Spotted Towhees, a Fox Sparrow, a Song Sparrow, a White-crowned Sparrow, a Golden-crowned Sparrow, 17 Dark-eyed Juncos, 4 Purple Finches, and 4 House Finches for a total species count of 23.

Kriss Erickson's report from Everett included 11 Black-capped Chickadees, 6 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 2 Bewick's Wrens, 4 Steller's Jays, 24 Bushtits, 12 American Crows, 18 Western Gulls, 5 American Robins, 4 House Finches, 3 Spotted Towhees, 2 Downy Woodpeckers, 4 Northern Flickers, 3 Song Sparrows, 22 European Starlings, 3 Mallard Ducks, 8 Dark-eyed Juncos, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 2 Varied Thrushes, and an Anna's Hummingbird for a total species count of 19.

Maureen Schmitz's report from Everett listed 2 Bald Eagles in a tree in the yard, 10 House Finches, a Song Sparrow, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 4 American Crows, a Bewick's Wren,

13 Bushtits, 5 Dark-eyed Juncos, 2 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 Yellow-rumped Warblers, 2 Northern Flickers, 11 American Robins, a Varied Thrush, a Townsend's Warbler, a Downy Woodpecker, a Golden-crowned Sparrow, 2 Steller's Jays, 3 Spotted Towhees, and a White-crowned Sparrow for a total species count of 19.

Mary Sinker's report from Stanwood included 2 American Goldfinches, 36 American Robins, 10 Anna's Hummingbirds, 2 Bald Eagles in the yard, 2 Bewick's Wrens, 12 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 Brown Creepers, 4 Bushtits, 10 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 2 Cooper's Hawks,



Photo by  
Mick  
Thompson

75 Dark-eyed Juncos, 5 Downy Woodpeckers, 15 European Starlings, 2 Fox Sparrows, 4 Golden-crowned Sparrows, a Great Blue Heron at the creek, 2 Great Horned Owls in the trees, 3 Hairy Woodpeckers, 6 House Finches, 2 House Sparrows, 4 Kinglet Species in the trees, 24 Mourning Doves, 6 Northern Flickers, a Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches, a Red-breasted Sapsucker, 2 Red-tailed Hawks, 43 Red-winged Blackbirds at the feeders, 5 Song Sparrows, 12 Spotted Towhees, a Steller's Jay, 2 Varied Thrushes, 13 White-crowned Sparrows, and 4 Winter Wrens for a total species count of 34.

My report from Marysville North included 8 American Crows, a Anna's Hummingbird, 4 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 20 Dark-eyed Juncos, a Common Raven, 2 Canada Geese, 7 House Finches, a Cooper's Hawk, 2 Glaucous-winged Gulls, 9 Rock Doves, 6 American Robins, 4 Northern Flickers, 12 Mallard Ducks, 3 Spotted Towhees, 2 Steller's Jays, a Varied Thrush, 2 Kinglet Species, 2 Hairy Woodpeckers, 2 Downy Woodpeckers, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Song Sparrow, 2 Purple Finches, 2 Mourning Doves, and a Pileated Woodpecker for a total species count of 23.

If you would like to join our Backyard Bird Count, please contact me at 525-750-8125 for email me at [pricemara1@gmail.com](mailto:pricemara1@gmail.com)

# BACKYARD BIRDING

by Mara Price, Sightings Coordinator

February 26 - March 25, 2023

The Beasons took a break from the March report, but they will submit their April report.

Sarah and Paul Bueren's report from Edmonds included 7 Bald Eagles flying over, a Red-breasted Sapsucker on the suet, 3 Northern Flickers, 3 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 4 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 20 American Crows, 12 Dark-eyed Juncos, 2 Townsend's Warblers, 2 Pileated Woodpeckers, 2 Spotted Towhees, 4 American Robins, 2 Varied Thrushes, 2 Hutton's Vireos, 2 Purple Finches, a Orange-crowned Warbler, 2 Golden-crowned Kinglets, a Bewick's Wren, and a Pacific Wren for a total species count of 20.

Hilkka Egtvedt's report from Mukilteo listed a Hawk Species, 4 Band-tailed Pigeons, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 2 Hairy Woodpeckers, 2 Northern Flickers, a Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Steller's Jays, 2 American Crows, 2 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 American Robins, 2 Varied Thrushes, 4 European Starlings, a Townsend's Warbler, 2 Spotted Towhees, 2 Song Sparrows, 2 Golden-crowned Sparrows, 7 Dark-eyed Juncos, 4 Purple Finches and 5 House Finches for a total species count of 21.

Reporting from Everett, Kriss Erickson's total species count of 22 included 18 Black-capped Chickadees, 7 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 2 Bewick's Wrens, 4 Steller's Jays, 26 Bushtits, 14 American Crows, 16 Western Gulls, 6 American Robins, 4 House Finches, 3 Spotted Towhees, 2 Downy Woodpeckers, 4 Northern Flickers, 4 Song Sparrows, 24 European Starlings, 3 Mallard Ducks, 7 Dark-eyed Juncos, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 2 Varied Thrushes, a Anna's Hummingbird, an American Eagle, 3 American Goldfinches, and 2 Ruby-crowned Kinglets.

Also reporting from Everett, Maureen Schmitz listed a Varied Thrush, 2 Bald Eagles in a tree in the yard, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 2 Dark-eyed Juncos, 4 Spotted Towhees, 8 American Robins, 2 Northern Flickers, 5 American Crows, 5 House Finches, 4 Black-capped Chickadees, 5 European Starlings, 6 Steller's Jays, a Song Sparrow, a White-crowned Sparrow, a Bewick's Wren, 3 Golden-crowned Sparrows, a Downy Woodpecker, 2 Red-crowned Kinglets, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, and a Great Blue Heron flying over for a total species count of 21.

Mary Sinker's total species count of 38 from her property in Stanwood included 17 American Goldfinches, 21

American Robins, 6 Anna's Hummingbirds, 2 Bald Eagles, a Band-tailed Pigeon, 2 Bewick's Wrens, 11 Black-capped Chickadees, a Brown Creeper, 8 Bushtits, 8 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 65 Dark-eyed Juncos, 4 Downy Woodpeckers, 15 European Starlings, 4 Fox Sparrows, 2 Golden-crowned Sparrows, 2 Great Blue Herons at the creek, 4 Hairy Woodpeckers, 12 House Finches, 2 House Sparrows, 2 Killdeer, 9 Kinglet Species, 2 Mallard Ducks at the creek, 16 Mourning Doves, 4 Northern Flickers, a Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Red-breasted Nuthatches, 2 Red-tailed Hawks In the trees, 35 Red-winged Blackbirds at the feeders, 2 Rufous Hummingbirds, 5 Song Sparrows, 7 Spotted Towhees, a Steller's Jay, a Tree Swallow, 2 Varied Thrushes, and 4 Winter Wrens.

My report from Marysville included 11 American Crows, 2 American Robins, 2 Anna's Hummingbirds, 2 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 Bewick's Wrens, 15 Canada Geese in the fields, 2 Chestnut-backed Chickadees, 12 Dark-eyed Juncos, a Downy Woodpecker, 50+ European Starlings, 6 Glaucous-Winged Gulls, 2 Great Horned Owls in the woods, 2 Hairy Woodpeckers, 10 House Finches, 20+ Mallard Ducks, 2 Mourning Doves, 3 Northern Flickers, a Red-breasted Nuthatch, 3 Spotted Towhees, 20+ Rock Doves on the wires, a Screech Owl heard in the woods, 6 Steller's Jays, and a Varied Thrush for a total species count of 23.

If you are interested in participating in the Backyard Birding Highlights, please contact me at [pricemara1@gmail.com](mailto:pricemara1@gmail.com) or call my cell phone at (424) 750-8125.

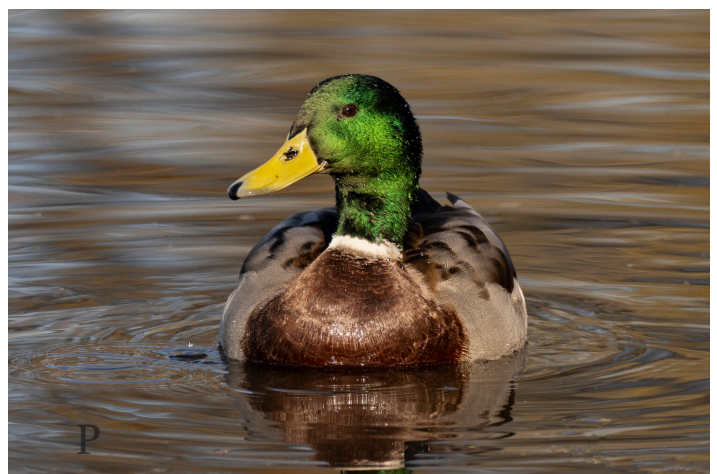


Photo by Mick Thompson

# Virginia Clark Family and Friends Memorial Picnic – July 16<sup>th</sup>

By Doug Cooper

Mark July 16<sup>th</sup> to attend this event hosted by the Pilchuck Audubon Society (PAS) at Langus Park along the Snohomish River. Virginia's family will be special guests.

The annual PAS Summer Picnic for many years was organized by Virginia Clark, who passed away last December.

It will be a potluck with most food items provided by attendees. PAS will provide barbeque items, beverages and paper goods. Attendees, please bring folding chairs and "tv trays" if available. There are some standard park picnic tables. Restrooms and easy parking are nearby. Facilities are ADA accessible.

Details about potluck dishes and equipment for attendees to provide will be in the June and July PROFILES. Serving will begin at 11:30 AM.

Never been to Langus Park? See below for information about this Everett City Park.

We do need help in setting up the event. Also we will need help with cleanup. Arrive by 10:00 AM to help with setup. Cleanup to be done by 3:00 PM. Please volunteer to Doug Cooper who is event manager.



Attendees can share memories about Virginia who with Art Wait led the Tuesday Fieldtrips over many years. She provided homemade cookies and other goodies at trip stops scattered north into British Columbia and south to Nisqually, and on both sides of Puget Sound, and into eastern Washington.



Photo by Rex Guichard

Folks who didn't participate in the Tuesday outings got to enjoy her homemade goodies over decades at monthly chapter meetings where she served as hostess.

Once a year, PAS members were invited to her Arlington home for an annual picnic. Known for her many homemade pies, and her special potato salad, she provided the entire menu including homemade breads.

Doug Cooper is point-of-contact for this event. He is a Member-at-Large on the PAS Board of Directors. Contact him at [dvcjcoop@gmail.com](mailto:dvcjcoop@gmail.com)

## Virginia Clark Memorial Picnic

July 16, 2023

Langus Park

400 Smith Island Road

Everett, WA 98201

Activities: bird watching; barbeque; boat launch; fishing pier (in season); 3 miles of trails for bicycling, walking, and jogging.

# Newsletter Editor Transition

For the past 7 years, Carolyn Lacy has been filling your inbox with our wonderfully produced newsletter. Last month was officially her last issue at the helm of The Profile.

In many organizations, there are often those who work behind the scenes without much fanfare. They are the ones who keep those organizations humming along. Carolyn is one of those people. Prior to becoming newsletter editor, she served as the chapter's Treasurer from 2004-2015. For the past 19 years, Carolyn has been integral to our chapter's operations and success.

There really aren't words that can properly express the gratitude and appreciation we have for Carolyn. She has been a joy to work with, and has always gone the extra mile to help the chapter.



Please join us in thanking Carolyn for her incredible service to our organization, our environment, and the birds.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you so much, Carolyn.

## Welcome our new Newsletter Editor, Patricia O'Neill!



We are excited to introduce Pat as our next Newsletter Editor! Pat is a retired professor of English from Hamilton College in central New York State. She grew up in Los Angeles and finished her Ph.D. at Northwestern University in Chicago. She considers herself an urban dweller, but after living near the Adirondacks, she has come to appreciate country life. For many years her yard and bird feeder attracted both local species and a few migratory birds, deer, foxes, and, of course, squirrels who managed to raid the bird feeder despite various measures to keep them out.

When she moved to Edmonds in 2016, she volunteered for the Edmonds Arts Commission and Earth Corps. Learning about the natural and cultural environment of the Puget Sound Region is a constant source of joy and pleasure. She looks forward to serving the Pilchuck Audubon Society through her work on the newsletter and other activities. If anyone has questions or suggestions for the newsletter, please contact Pat at [newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org).

## Imagine Children's Museum

### Kids' Bird Festival

May 6, 10:00am-3:00pm

After a few years of not having this event due to the pandemic and museum renovations, we are excited to announce that the museum is hosting it once again on Saturday, May 6th!

Come check out the newly renovated museum and explore all the new interactive exhibits. It'll be a great time for the family!



\*\*\*Volunteers Needed!\*\*\*

Want to help out? PAS tries to support this event as much as possible, and we could use your help to make the event a success! Help us and museum staff run activities during the event, no experience necessary!

Please let Brian know if you'd like to help at [director@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:director@pilchuckaudubon.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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 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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### Committee Chairs

Bird Sightings	Mara Price	360.772.5752
Community Science Coordinator	Brian Zinke	<a href="mailto:director@pilchuckaudubon.org">director@pilchuckaudubon.org</a>
Communications	vacant	<a href="mailto:communications@pilchuckaudubon.org">communications@pilchuckaudubon.org</a>
Conservation Awards Education	Laurel Cheap Madelyn Voelker	<a href="mailto:classroom.awards@pilchuckaudubon.org">classroom.awards@pilchuckaudubon.org</a> <a href="mailto:education@pilchuckaudubon.org">education@pilchuckaudubon.org</a>
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Hospitality	Vacant	
Newsletter Editor	Pat O'Neill	<a href="mailto:newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org">newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org</a>
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Webmaster	Brian Zinke	<a href="mailto:director@pilchuckaudubon.org">director@pilchuckaudubon.org</a>

### Staff

Executive Director/ Development Director	Brian Zinke	<a href="mailto:director@pilchuckaudubon.org">director@pilchuckaudubon.org</a>
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### Trip Calendar

Check our website: <https://www.pilchuckaudubon.org/upcoming-trips>,  
 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 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](mailto: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 425.232.6811.

The monthly Profile is available online at

[www.pilchuckaudubon.org](http://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 Anyways?

Presentation by Thomas Bancroft

[Watch the Recording](#)

### Get the Lead Out: Loons, Waterfowl and You

Presentation by Martha Jordan

[Watch the Recording](#)