



The Corvid Crier

EAST LAKE WASHINGTON AUDUBON SOCIETY

ISSUE 04-4 – MAY 2004

Wildlife of Latin and South America

When: Thursday, May 27 at 7:00 p.m. (after the Social Hour)

Where: Northlake Unitarian-Universalist Church (directions on page 5)

Jim Kenney, a retired radiologist, has made over 22 trips to Latin America, including Costa Rica, almost all of the countries in South America, and several of the island countries and states off the South American coast.

His specialty is new-world herons, but Jim is also interested in the other creatures to be found in these areas. Please join us on **Thursday, May 27 at 7:00 p.m.** for this fascinating presentation on the birds and wildlife he's observed in his travels.

This presentation is **free and open to the public**. Also, please join us at **6:30 for the social hour**.

Spring Plant Sale!

By Jan McGruder

Mark these dates! Our spring plant sale will run from May 1st through June 13, as follows:

Saturdays - May 1, 15, 29; June 5;

Sundays - May 9, 23; June 13

OR by pre-order/appointment



Sale hours are from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** and will be held at:

Jan's Herbs

13450 NE 100th Street in Kirkland

425-822-8580 jmcgruder@comcast.net.

As in the past, we offer a wide variety of native plants, as well as perennials and herbs that attract butterflies and hummingbirds. Come pick out the plants that best suit your landscaping-and help wildlife at the same time! All proceeds go directly to ELWAS.

To guarantee we have all that you're looking for, **we are taking orders this year**. We can mail or e-mail you an order form. With a few days' notice, we can have your plants ready to go.

Prefer to browse? We hope to see you on one of the sale dates listed above.

Brown Bagging with ELWAS on May 28

On May 28th ELWAS will hold its second, MONTHLY brown bag lunch at the church. We'll be meeting in the large room downstairs. This is an opportunity for ELWAS members to meet, talk, share bird stories, and get to know each other better. This is YOUR chance to tell us what we can do for you.

Please call the office (425-576-8805) to let us know you'll be joining us.

Our Mission: *The mission of the East Lake Washington Audubon Society is to protect, preserve and enhance natural ecosystems and our communities for the benefit of birds, other wildlife and people.*

President's Message

By Christy Anderson, ELWAS President

Birdathon: As Important as it is Fun!

Spring is here and the birds are extremely busy! I've been treated to the songs of dueling towhees in my backyard. The local detention pond is like a swinging singles bar (or a TV reality show!), with all the redwing blackbird males puffing themselves up to attract some female attention.

That means it's time once again for our annual Birdathon. Teams from ELWAS and chapters all over the country will be spending a few hours, a day or an entire 24-hour period outdoors...counting birds! Birdathoners seek to identify as many species of birds as possible in 24 hours. Many teams will be out before daylight and some long after dark.

So, how does all this fun chasing birds raise money for the Audubon cause? Like a Walkathon, but better! Friends, family and associates agree to pledge a certain amount per species tallied. For instance, a pledge of \$1 per species would mean a gift of \$50 if the team you sponsor finds 50 species, \$100 for 100 species. Your sponsorship supports the ELWAS mission to protect, preserve and enhance natural ecosystems and our communities for the benefit of birds, other wildlife and people.

Funds raised during Birdathon comprise the largest single source of our operating and program funds, over 30% in 2003! All money raised here, stays here, supporting our Chapter's programs. With your help, we have used funds to save habitat in our local area and throughout the Northwest. We have sent over 60 fourth graders to environmental camp. We have purchased plants for restoration projects. We offer the monthly speakers that so many of you enjoy. And we'd like to do so much more. Including our long-term goal of having an Audubon Center in our local community.

It makes sense to ask Audubon members to sponsor this Audubon event, and I hope you'll be involved by participating on a team or being a team sponsor. Don't know how? We can help! Call the office and ask to be put on a team, or tell us you want your own team. We'll send you all the materials you need, and help you get started.

Want to be a sponsor? If you don't know a team to sponsor, call the office, and we'll have some ideas for you. You can also check our Website where information about Birdathon will be posted. And if your employer matches contributions, you can make your donation go even farther. It's entirely tax deductible, of course.

It's also greatly appreciated! Last year, our Chapter raised over \$26,000! And this year, with over 20 teams signed up, our goal is \$30,000. With your support, and that of thousands of others like you across the country, who are concerned about birds, habitat, wetlands, clean air and water, we will be able to continue working on these issues. Thank you very much for supporting the continuation of our mission at ELWAS.

East Lake Washington Audubon Society 425 576 8805

308 4th Avenue S. (Corner 4th Ave. S. and State)
P.O. Box 3115, Kirkland, WA 98083-3115
Web Site: <http://www.ELWAS.org>

Executive Officers

President	Christy Anderson	(425) 747-4196
E-mail	christyrae@hotmail.com	
Vice President	LouAnn Harris	(425) 652-7603
E-mail	montlou@earthlink.net	
Secretary	Diane Stone	(425) 868-1174
E-mail	dianestone@hotmail.com	
Treasurer	Tim Boyer	(425) 277-9326
Executive Director	Jan McGruder	(425) 822-8580
E-mail	jmgcruder@comcast.net	

Committee Chairs/Board (board positions underlined)

<u>At large board member</u>	Amy McQuade	(206) 232-9543
E-mail	mcbirdwchr@aol.com	
<u>At large board member</u>	MaryFrances Mathis	(425) 803-3026
E-mail	MF.Mathis@verizon.net	
<u>At large board member</u>	Ruth Adamski	(425) 823-6189
<u>Communication</u>	Open	
Historian	Sidonia St. Germaine	(425) 432-4261
E-mail	shearwater2@msn.com	
Newsletter Editor	Tom Grismer	(425) 828-6103
E-mail	newsletter@elwas.org	
Publicity	Tracey Cummings	(425) 788-4663
E-mail	publicity@elwas.org	
Webmaster	Nancy Nicklas	(425) 869-7827
E-mail	webmaster@elwas.org	
<u>Community Outreach</u>	Open	
<u>Conservation</u>	Tim McGruder	(425) 828-4036
E-mail	Tim@elwas.org	
Advocacy	Tim McGruder	(425) 828-4036
E-mail	Tim@elwas.org	
Citizen Science	Len Steiner	(425) 827-2478
Habitat Restoration	Open	
<u>Education</u>	Open	
Adult Education	Melinda Bronsdon	(425) 827-5708
Youth Education	Mary Britton-Simmons	(360) 794-7163
E-mail	education@elwas.org	
Library	Betty Dean	(425) 823-0343
<u>Financial Development</u>	Open	
Birdathon	Christy Anderson.....	(425) 747-4196
Gift Wrap	Nancy and Jim Roberts.....	(425) 822-1865
Merchandising	Open	
<u>Events Coordinator</u>	Open	
Field Trips	Hugh Jennings	(425) 746-6351
E-mail	fieldtrip@elwas.org	
Hospitality	Kathy Andrich	
Programs	Open	
Volunteer Coordinator	Lea Knapp	(425) 822-7056
<u>Membership</u>	Robert Riedl	tulseluper@yahoo.com
Bellefields Clean-up	John Barrett	(425) 644-2862
Bird Questions?	Amy McQuade	(206) 232-9543
E-mail	birdhelp@elwas.org	

Last Call for Bird-a-thon! May Day! May Day! May Day!

Well, it's late April/early May and you say you still haven't decided how to support ELWAS for Birdathon?!?!? Don't have the time to get out and bird this month?!?!? Can't pick a team to support?!?!?

Join us in spirit!

Send a well-considered and worthwhile donation marked BIRDATHON to ELWAS via the trusty old snail mail system (P.O. Box 3115, Kirkland, WA 98083-3115) or carrier pigeon if you are so equipped! Contribute via credit card over the phone (425-576-8805)

Consider what is at stake!

Member/Community Education * Conservation * Birding * Advocacy

Monthly membership programs with a variety of notable guest speakers

- e Monthly issues of *The Corvid Crier* (9 times/year)
- e Great classes for beginners & experienced birders who want to learn more
- e Conservation work preserving habitat and advocating for natural areas on the Eastside
- e Office and library resources open to members and the public

Although any gift is appreciated, a gift of \$100 pays for one classroom presentation! Over one year, this is less than the cost of one latte per week!

We have a very ambitious goal of \$30,000 this year. **We can do it, with your help!** Thank you for your support of ELWAS and the work we do.

Welcome!

Welcome to the following new members of the East Lake Washington Audubon Society. We hope to see you soon at a Membership Meeting or Field Trip. Call or visit our office if you have any questions. Our friendly volunteers are more than happy to help you.

Trisha Burke, Paula Flores, Fay O. Garner, Jennifer Houhan, Al Hunter, Alex King, Marsha Kringlen, Frank Liang, Barbara Luecke, Kimberly Ordon, Richard Peterson, Deborah Poarch, Ruth Russell, Jean T. Schmid, Alice M. Scott, Patricia Smith, Paul Stout, Mares Strehler, Dan Summers, Sandra and Bob Williamson, Stanton Wood, Mark Wythes

CLIP AND MAIL THIS HANDY FORM!

I want to get involved in **Birdathon!**

Here's how I want to help.

I want to be on a Birdathon Team!

- Please have a leader who needs more team members call me.
- I will form my own team.
- Please send me a Team Packet.

I want to support a Birdathon team!

- I want to support the _____ team.
- Give my donation to the overall Birdathon effort.

I pledge this amount.

- \$25 \$100 \$ _____ per species
- \$50 \$250 other \$ _____
- Check enclosed. Please bill me.

- I am an ELWAS member.
- Please send me membership information.

**All Birdathons must be completed
by the end of May.**

Name _____
Address _____

Email _____
Phone _____



**East Lake Washington
Audubon Society**

PO Box 3115
Kirkland, WA 98083-3115

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The Corvid Crier is published monthly by the East Lake Washington Audubon Society except that there are no issues in January, July and August.

- **Deadline** for material submission is the first Wednesday of the month preceding publication. Send material by email to:
newsletter@elwas.org Subject: ELWAS or by mail to:
Tom Grismer
P. O. Box 3053, Kirkland, WA 98083-3053
- The "Raven in Flight" used as our graphic logo was created by Tony Angell, and is ©1978 Univ. Of Washington Press. Used with permission.

AUDUBON CENTER/OFFICE

The office is downstairs at Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church in Kirkland, **308 4th Avenue S.** (Corner 4th Ave. S. and State, directions on page 5).

Phone number: (425) 576-8805

Email: office@elwas.org

Hours: Mon — Fri. — 10:00 — 2:00

Sat. — 12:00 — 4:00

COMING EVENTS

Parents and children over 8 are welcome on all trips

Check our website at <http://www.elwas.org/events/> for the latest information and for reports of last months' field trips.

May 4/June 1 (Tuesday) 7:00 p.m. - Conservation Committee — Meets first Tuesday of each month in the ELWAS Office. All interested parties are invited. Questions? Call **Tim McGruder at 425-828-4036**

May 5/June 2 (Weds.) 7:00 p.m. — Web Committee Meets first Wednesday of each month in the ELWAS Office. All interested parties are invited. Questions? Email **Nancy Nicklas at webmaster@elwas.org**

May 8 (Saturday) 7:00 a.m. - Afternoon Christmas Lake/Rattlesnake Lake
At the foot of the Cascade Mts, this area near North Bend offers the opportunity to see warblers, flycatchers, wrens, woodpeckers, swallows, ducks, and raptors. The old Red Alders, second-growth conifers, Black Cottonwoods, wetlands, and lake may harbor some unexpected species. Bring lunch. Meet before 7 a.m. at Bellevue's Wilburton Park & Ride, I-405, Exit 12, to carpool. Passenger cost/person is **\$3.00. Joyce Meyer 425-881-5422.**

May 8 (Sat.) 10 a.m. Bellefields Trail Walkthrough
Help clean litter along Bellefields Trail in Mercer Slough Nature Park. Meet at the Bellefields Trail parking lot on 118th Ave SE (Bellevue), about a mile south of Greenbaum's Furniture (118th and SE 8th). **Bring gloves, a bag for trash, and binoculars.** -- **John Barrett 425-644-2862**

May 12 (Weds.) - 9 a.m. – Bellevue Botanical Gardens
Join us for a walk through the garden and spend a relaxed morning seeing what birds are in the area. **Meets 2nd Wed. of each month at 9:00 a.m.,** and will finish by lunchtime. Bring binoculars and meet at the front door. Walks are limited to 10 people and **pre-registration is required. Call the office to sign up at 425-576-8805.**

May 13 (Thursday) 7:00 a.m. - Birdathon Field Trip Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge
Article on Joyce's trip on page 5

May 13 (Thursday) 7:00 a.m. - Birdathon Field Trip Juanita Bay Park
Article on MaryFrances' trip on page 5

May 17-22 Trip to Malheur NWR
Detailed information on page 6.

May 17 (Monday) 7:00 p.m. — Birds in the Balance Meets 3rd Mon. each month at Len Steiner's, 13239 NE 100th, Kirkland. You're welcome to join this group, which assesses bird populations in local habitats **425-827-2478**

May 18 (Tues.) 9 a.m. – lunchtime — Juanita Bay Park
A relaxed walk in the Park, seeing what birds are in the area. Meets the **3rd Tues. of each month at 9:00.** Bring binoculars and meet in parking lot. No registration required.

May 20 (Thurs.) 7-9 p.m. — Education Committee
Meets **3rd Thursday of each month** in the ELWAS Office. All interested parties are invited. Questions? For information email: **education@elwas.org** or call **425-576-8805.**

May 22 Birdathon Field Trip With Jim Rettig
Article on page 5

May 24 (Monday) 9:00 a.m. to noon Birding the Hotspots of King County
Monthly field trip on fourth Monday of each month to wherever the birds are. Meet before 9:00 a.m. at north end of the Newport Hills Park-N-Ride (I-405, exit 9) and plan to be back by noon. Passenger cost/person **\$2.00.**
Hugh Jennings 425-746-6351

May 27 (Thursday) 7:00 p.m. — Monthly Meeting "Wildlife of Latin and South America"
See p. 1. Social hour starts at 6:30.

June 10 (Thursday) 8:00 a.m. to mid-afternoon Al Borlin/Buck Island Park
This Monroe 90-acre park offers a sheltered summer walk through a forest of large big-leaf maples and cottonwoods where there could be wrens, warblers and other song birds. Woods Creek flows into the Skykomish River where there may be shorebirds. Bring lunch. Meet before 8 a.m. at the south end of Kingsgate Park & Ride. **Passenger cost/person \$3.00. Joyce Meyer 425-881-5422**

BUY PCC SCRIP THROUGH ELWAS AND HELP US RAISE MONEY!

We will be taking monthly orders for PCC scrip! You can use the scrip just like cash at any PCC store. ELWAS receives 5% of every scrip dollar we sell! **Please call or e-mail Megan Lyden (425-603-1548; meganlyden@msn.com) by the 3rd Friday of each month.** The scrip will be available for pick-up in the ELWAS office by the 4th Thursday of each month, and also during ELWAS membership meetings. Please pay by check or cash at the time of pick-up (no credit cards, please). We must have \$500 in combined orders in order to purchase scrip from PCC.

WENAS CAMPOUT, May 28-31, 2004

By Helen Engel



This is such a special Audubon outing. And unique! There's no other place where Auduboners gather to camp out and do their birdwatching, botanizing, bugwatching and explorations of the countryside for three days!

For over 30 years Auduboners have gathered in the Wenas Creek Campground officially named the Hazel Wolf Wenas Creek Bird Sanctuary by Boise Cascade, who own this open pine forest site SW of Ellensburg. This is a FREE "primitive" campground with portable toilets trucked in (paid for by our donations on site), and no other amenities to speak of (bring your own cooking/drinking water). BUT..... the birding is exceptional! and the wildflowers are exceptional! and so is the company

For details visit the Wenas Website, <http://www.nwlink.com/~cyrus/wenas.html>. There's a bird checklist, directions to the campground, and more. Bring friends, family, and join us at Wenas in 2004!

BIRDATHON TRIPS

Join Jim Rettig on May 22nd

Join Jim Rettig, and make a donation for Birdathon. We will meet at my house at 8:00 a.m. and bird my yard. Then on to Spencer Island and the Everett Waterfront. Dress for the weather and bring snacks/lunch.

Participants pledge \$25+ to Birdathon. Call the office at 425-576-8805 to register and obtain directions.

Join MaryFrances on May 13th

Join MaryFrances Mathis for a walk at Juanita Bay Park, and make a donation for Birdathon. Meet in the parking lot at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 13th. The trip will last until noon, and you could see over 50 species!

MaryFrances is requesting a **Birdathon pledge of \$15.00 per person** for this trip. Bring snacks and dress for the weather. If you have any questions, contact **MaryFrances at mf.mathis@verizon.net**.

Join Joyce on May 13

Experience a diverse combination of habitats and birds. The delta is bounded by rivers and marshes, woods, wide opens spaces, all accessed by a 5-mile loop trail. Expect a variety of bird species from warblers to raptors. Admission is \$3 or free with National Golden Pass or Federal Duck Stamp. Bring lunch. Meet before 7 a.m. at north end of Newport Hills Park & Ride, I-405, Exit 9 to carpool. Passenger cost/person is **\$5.00**. Return late afternoon.

Participants pledge \$25 or more to Birdathon. Call ELWAS at 425-576-8805 for pledge details. Joyce Meyer 425-881-5422

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

NOTECARDS OF WESTERN US BIRDS

Color 4x6 prints on 5x7 notecards with envelopes.

Greater Sage-Grouse, Great Blue Heron, shorebirds. \$2.50 ea. Available in the ELWAS Store
Tim Boyer Photography @ www.timboyer.com

Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest May 7-9

North Central Washington Audubon hosts the second annual Leavenworth Spring Bird Fest, May 7th - 9th, featuring field trips, workshops, art shows and many other nature-related activities. For more information, contact the Leavenworth Chamber of Commerce, 509-548-5807 or visit our website at www.leavenworthspringbirdfest.com. Also, see the article in the April Corvid Crier.

How to get to..

- **Kingsgate Park and Ride:**
I-405 exit 20B northbound or 20 southbound, N. E. 124th St. Go west to light at 116th Ave. N. E., then right (north) a few blocks to P&R lot (on the left). Meet in the S.E. corner.
- **ELWAS Office/Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church,
308 4th Avenue S. (corner 4th Ave. S and State)**
I-405 exit 18 (N. E. 85th-Kirkland). Go west on Central Way to the light on 3rd St. Go left on 3rd St. Follow this street (it bears left and changes name to State St.) Then turn left on 4th Ave. S.

OSPREY DAY VOLUNTEERS

By Elizabeth Whiteford



Osprey Day is 9/25/04 at the Juanita Bay Park from 10-2. We need volunteers to help with this fun community event. If you'd like to volunteer, please call me at 206-715-6126 or email me at ewhiteford@cablespeed.com.

**BIRD
of the
MONTH**

Wilson's Warbler

Wilsonia pusilla
by Hugh Jennings

The Wilson's Warbler (WIWA) is about 4.75" long with a wingspan of 7" and weight of 0.27 oz (7.7g). The genus name *Wilsonia* (will-SO-nih-ah) is for Alexander Wilson, "father of American ornithology". The species name *pusilla* is Latin for very small.

The WIWA is yellow below, olive above with prominent black eyes and yellow forehead. The dark tail is often twitched. The male has a prominent black cap which is reduced or lacking in the female. Richness of the underparts varies with region more than sex.

Although it nests from coast to coast across Canada, the Wilson's Warbler is far more common farther west. In the east it is seen in small numbers, but in the Rockies and westward it is often the most abundant migrant in late spring. It is a common summer resident west of the Cascade crest in a variety of moist, wooded habitats with well-developed understory vegetation. These warblers arrive on breeding territory in late April-early May. East of the crest it is a common spring and fall migrant with most passing through late in spring; uncommonly, it is a local summer resident of moist, shrubby places in open mountain forests in northeast WA.

They feed actively in low growth, eating mostly insects. Frequent items in the diet include bees, wasps, beetles, caterpillars and aphids. Its voice is a chattering trill that drops in pitch, *chi-chi-chi-chet-chet*. The call is a flat low "chet". Birds that nest along the Pacific coast tend to lay fewer eggs and raise fewer offspring than those that nest in high mountains. Also Pacific coast males mate with only one female while some mountain males have more than one mate. The nest is usually on the ground, sunken in moss or sedges, often at the base of a shrub. Along the Pacific coast, nests are often placed up to 3 feet above ground, in shrubs and vines. The nest is a bulky open cup, built by the female, made of dead leaves, grass, and moss and lined with fine grass and hair. There are usually 4-6 eggs, creamy white with variable marks of brown. Incubation is only by the female and lasts 10-13 days. Cowbirds regularly lay eggs in the nests of the Wilson's Warbler. The young are fed by both parents. The young leave the nest 8-13 days after hatching. There is usually one brood per year.

Malheur, 2004

ELWAS is organizing another Chapter trip to Malheur National Wildlife this spring. The Refuge lies in southeastern Oregon, about 30 miles south of Burns, at an elevation of 4,100 feet. It is 183,000 acres composed of meadows, ponds and extensive wetlands surrounded by sage uplands and basalt rim rock. It is a major resting, nesting, and feeding area on the Pacific Flyway, and is on Roger Tory Peterson's list of the ten best birding areas in the US. More than 320 species of birds and many species of mammals have been observed on the Refuge. We have seen up to 127 species in four+ days.

We will visit all of the main birding areas within the Refuge. This year, there's room for 15 people, and we will have 2 field trip leaders each day. We will usually leave about 8:00 a.m., bird all day and be back about 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. The area is large enough that we can bird a separate area on each day. The field station is somewhat isolated - the town of Burns is 30 miles away - but there is a small convenience store at the Refuge entry, and a small store at Princeton, about 20 miles away. Therefore, bring everything that you will need with you. You'll need your own bedding/sleeping bag and pillow, towels and toiletries, flashlight, insect repellent, and we recommend dressing in layers. Temperatures can range from freezing at night to 80° during the day. We also recommend rain gear, good hiking/walking shoes, and of course binoculars and a spotting scope, if you have one.

We will leave our area at 7:00 to 7:30 on Monday morning, May 17, 2003. It's about a 500-mile trip, and takes about 10-11 hours driving time. Of course, there's birding along the way, a stop for a picnic lunch, and dinner in Burns, Oregon. Passengers will split gas costs with their driver which, depending on mileage of their vehicle, will probably total \$100 to \$130. During the four days at Malheur, we will try to consolidate carpools to limit the number of cars caravanning. Passengers will pay the drivers \$3/day or \$12 for the four days at Malheur.

Our reservations are from Monday night May 17, through Saturday morning, May 22, when we head home. We have reserved two kitchenettes, each with a shared bath and shared kitchens. We'll have "quiet" house, and a "noisy" house. All the community cooking/meals will be done in the noisy house. Room rental is \$25 per person, double occupancy, or \$125 for the week.

All the meals will be provided by ELWAS for this trip. Breakfast = \$7; box lunch = \$8; dinner = \$11. The total cost for meals is \$111, and will be served Tuesday through breakfast Saturday. Everyone will be expected to sign up for after-dinner clean up once during the week.

We will have an orientation meeting on May 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the church Boardroom (across from our office). We'll have a chance to meet each other, plan carpooling and learn a little about what to expect at Malheur.

If you're interested, please call me with your questions or to reserve your spot (425-822-8580). The total cost for the week is \$236.00 per person, and we need \$50.00 to hold your spot.

Upcoming ELWAS Classes

☞ June 5, 2004: BIRDING AND ETHNOBOTANY AT SAINT EDWARDS STATE PARK

Take a walk in the forest at Saint Edwards State Park with **naturalist Eugene Makela** and explore the ethnobotany of a northwest forest ecosystem in relation to birds and animals. This class will focus on interrelationships between trees, plants, birds, animals and humans with a special interest in bird habitat. Learn the names of those trees where birds nest or hide, identify insects, invertebrates, berries and edible plants providing food sources, discuss the natural history and ecology of the forest, and native culture and ethnic forest practices beneficial to plants, birds and animals. We will include birding throughout the day of course! Use this day to enhance your birdwatching experiences in the forest ecosystem.

Mr. Makela is a Native American and former Parks Naturalist at the Seattle Parks Department. Currently he is Ornithology Preparator at the Burke Museum and has prepared many of the bird specimens in our ELWAS educational collection. He is an experienced naturalist, ethnobotanist, and ornithologist and brings to the class a lifetime of experiences in the Northwest.

Meet at Saint Edwards Park at **9:00 AM**. Bring water and lunch. Parking in the State Park requires an Annual Parks Pass or \$5 daily pass available at the Park. We regret this **class is not suitable for children under age 16**. No pets.

Registration required. Limit 20 persons. Call the ELWAS office at 425-576-8805.

Class: Saturday, June 5, 2004, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Cost: \$25 per person for Audubon members, \$35 per person non-members.

☞ June 2004: SUMMER BIRDS OF THE MOUNTAINS -- BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!!!

Master Birder **Brian Bell** returns to offer again the popular class on summer birds in our Cascade Range!

Washington State is fortunate to have a wide variety of breeding birds in our high mountains. These birds return every year to their mountain homes, and are eagerly sought after by birders. We will cover the identification and habitats of many of these birds, including Blue and Spruce Grouse, White-tailed Ptarmigan, Boreal Chickadee, Black-backed and Three-toed Woodpecker, Clark's Nutcracker and Gray Jay among others. The extended field trip to Okanogan County will give us the opportunity to search for many of these high mountain birds. Of course we will be alert for the many other birds on the way.

Class: Thursday, June 10, 2004, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the ELWAS offices in the Northlake Unitarian Church in Kirkland.

Field Trip: Friday, June 25 thru Sunday, June 27 to Okanogan County. Field trip organized at the class meeting.

Cost for lecture and field trips: **\$65.00 for ELWAS members, \$85.00 for nonmembers.**

Registration: Call the ELWAS office at 425-576-8805 to register by June 18, 2004.

****Class limited to 20 participants: 14 class and field trip, 6 class only.**

☞ July-August 2004: EXCITING NEW CLASS!! PELAGIC BIRDING

North America's west coast offers some of the best seabirding anywhere in the world! The waters 20-40 miles offshore support a diversity of species—albatrosses, storm petrels, shearwaters and jaegers—that spend much of the year in the waters far offshore at the edge of the continental shelf. If you've heard about pelagic birding but wasn't sure what was involved, this class is for you!

Two classroom sessions taught by **Mike Donahue** will cover the diversity of seabirds that are found offshore, focusing on natural history and identification, as well as how to prepare for a pelagic trip.

Classes: Thursdays, July 29 and August 5, 7-9 p.m. at ELWAS headquarters in Northlake Unitarian Church, Kirkland.

Cost of class: \$50 members, \$65 nonmembers *Limit for class: 40**

Optional field trip: Sunday, August 8. We will be joining an already scheduled pelagic trip with Westport Seabirds. The boat departs from Westport at 6 a.m., and participants should be at the dock no later than 5:45 a.m. The boat will return between 3 and 4 p.m. ******Field Trip Full — Call for wait list.**

Cost of field trip: \$90, payable to Westport Seabirds.

To register for the field trip, contact Mike Donahue directly at 206-323-9889. *Register early; there is typically a waiting list for pelagic birding trips. Persons registered for the class have priority for the field trip. For info about registration, call the ELWAS office at 425-576-8805.*

Note: Course does not provide lodging or transportation to Westport for the field trip. Participants should arrange these on their own. Participants who sign up for the field trip portion will receive information on lodging in advance of the first class.