



The Corvid Crier

EAST LAKE WASHINGTON AUDUBON SOCIETY

ISSUE 04-6 – SEPTEMBER 2004

The Inland Sea: Where Have All the Orcas Gone?

When: Thursday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m. (after the social hour)

Where: Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church



Mike Sato is Director of Education and Involvement for People for Puget Sound, a 10,000-plus membership grassroots organization established in 1991 to educate and involve people in the protection and restoration of Puget Sound's lands and waters. He has over 25 years of experience in the communications field in news media, electric utility, and environmental protection. In the environmental field, he served as the Puget Sound Water Quality Authority's first Public Information

Officer during development of the first Puget Sound Water Quality Management Plan.

Mike served as People for Puget Sound's Communications Director for eight years and has led projects in marine resource protection and recovery. He is a resident of Lopez Island and works out of People For Puget Sound's Mount Vernon office. He is the author of "The Price of Taming a River: The Duwamish-Green Waterway in Decline," published by The Mountaineer Press in 1997.

For our program, Mike will introduce a fascinating documentary in which Jean-Michel Cousteau leads us on a visually stunning "Orca odyssey" through Puget Sound and the Northwest Straits. This 45-minute documentary produced by People For Puget Sound and Outpost Media in 2001 features rare footage of our threatened Orca whales. The film also features rare historical footage, insightful interviews with local leaders and scientists, and magical music.

Mike also has some questions for us to think about: What's killing the killer whales? Where have all the Orcas gone? It's a critical time for the most majestic, powerful and intelligent creature in the Inland Sea... and for all of us. Mike will address these and other questions you may have after the video.

Please join us **Thursday, September 23**, for this stunning documentary, "The Inland Sea: Where Have All the Orcas Gone. Come at 6:30 for the social hour. The presentation follows immediately after a brief monthly meeting, which begins at 7:00.

The social hour, meeting and presentation are **free and open to the public**. Invite a friend or anyone who loves Orcas.

Directions to ELWAS office / Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church, 308 4th Ave. S. (corner of 4th Ave. S. and State). Take I-405 exit 18 (NE 85th, Kirkland). Drive west on Central Way to 3rd St. (stoplight). Turn left (south) on 3rd St. and follow it as it bears left and changes name to State St. Turn left on 4th Ave S.

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

I grew up in Montana, where gopher is a dirty word, usually preceded by several even dirtier words. Apparently, these varmints' only function was making holes designed to break the legs of horses and cattle, an attitude still widely held.

Of course, I matured and broadened my outlook. I learned that gophers and prairie dogs aerate the soil with their tunnels, increasing the productivity of native grasses. I grew to believe that animals have inherent value, even if not in direct service to humans.

Philosophies are great, aren't they? We can make judgments about the world and neatly categorize events. Then, one day, along comes a mountain beaver.

I am lucky enough to live on a wooded greenbelt. We've worked hard to replace invasive plants with natives like red-flowering currant, mock orange, kinnikinnik; a regular little wildlife paradise.

And what do you know, wildlife moved in - in the form of a mountain beaver. Named in the days of fur trapping for "marketing" reasons, these rodents, about cat size, have no tail, human-looking ears and front paws made for digging tunnels. There is one similarity to beavers. They are small scale loggers. Instead of felling trees, they go after shrubs; like, for example, red-flowering currant, mock orange, and kinnikinnik. They climb the shrub and remove entire branches, leaving an angled cut.

Now, the occasional pruning by the deer, I tried to take in stride. (I struggled when she ate a whole sedum plant, but it came back.) My pet peeve has always been city folks who move to the country and then want the deer removed for eating their roses. But this ambitious little guy had higher aspirations.

My mock orange shrub had taken three years to bloom. And it was going to be spectacular! Each branch was absolutely covered with buds. I eagerly came home each day to see the progress. Then, one day, the bush looked smaller. A lot smaller. About a third of it was gone! I ran out to find a series of angled cuts.

Someone recommended mothballs. I hung an old sock filled with stinky mothballs from the center branch. The next day, he had cut the branch with the sock, and several more. Down the slope, I saw a huge pile of MY branches piled next to the burrow. Revenge entered my heart. I borrowed a humane trap and set it. Nothing.

Then, walking on the other side of town, I saw a peculiar sight. A fuzzy rock. It was breathing. I nudged it gently. It unrolled very sleepily, then rolled back up. It was a baby mountain beaver!! What was this, some kind of sign? Karma?

What if the one in my yard was a mother? I know trapping and releasing wildlife in new areas often results in their deaths, either from starvation or competing for another animal's territory. Was I really being humane? Was I

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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	president@elwas.org	
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	jan@elwas.org	

Committee Chairs/Board (board positions underlined)

<u>At large board member</u>	Amy McQuade	(206) 232-9543
E-mail	mcbrdwchr@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	(206) 720-9892
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) 827-4541
<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	Open	
Programs	Sunny Walter	(425) 271-1346
E-mail	sunny@sunnywalter.com	
Volunteer Coordinator	Emily Winstrom	(425) 453-5614
E-mail	volunteer@elwas.org	
<u>Membership</u>	(425) 822-7056	
Bellefields Clean-up	Robert Riedl	tulseluper@yahoo.com
Bird Questions?	John Barrett	(425) 644-2862
E-mail	Amy McQuade.....	(206) 232-9543
	birdhelp@elwas.org	

President's Message

(Continued from page 2)

compromising my beliefs?

It's good to have our philosophies tested every once in a while. Otherwise, we get too comfortable and forget why we have them. I went home and put a length of wire fence around the mock orange. I gave the trap back. I took a deep breath and decided to wait and see. For now, the harvest seems to have ended.

What will I do next year? Plant another mock orange, and another and another...

ELWAS Board Approves Policy on Use of Member Information

By Jan McGruder

The ELWAS Board has recently approved a policy to share, and at the same time protect, ELWAS' member information. A very few times a year, ELWAS will provide mailing labels to organizations in support of specific causes which ELWAS endorses. The new policy strictly limits use of this information, and it requires that these third parties sign a contract to uphold the confidentiality of this information.

If at any time you would prefer not to receive information on important issues from third parties, you may always opt out of this service. Simply fill out the membership form attached to the newsletter, select the box for "Do not share my name or address with organizations," and return it to ELWAS.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact me at jan@elwas.org. This policy is limited to East Lake Washington Audubon Society, and in no way reflects the membership policies of National Audubon Society.



Spring Plant Sale

Mark these dates! Our spring plant sale will run from September 4th through October 9th, as follows:

Saturdays - 10-2: September 4, 25; October 9

Sundays - 10-2: September 12, October 3

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

jan@elwas.org

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.

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

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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 Newsletter or by mail to: East Lake Washington Audubon Society
Attn: Tom Grismer
P. O. Box 3115, Kirkland, WA 98083-3115
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AUDUBON CENTER/OFFICE HOURS

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.

September 1 (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

September 7 (Tues.) 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

September 8 (Weds.) - 9:00 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.**

September 9 (Thurs.) - 9:00 a.m.

Lake Hills Greenbelt

The greenbelt has 5 miles of trails that snake through wetlands, meadows, forests and cultivated fields. Parts of the trail follow the route of an old Indian trail that led from Phantom Lake to Kirkland. Meet before 9:00 a.m. at Wilburton Park N Ride, Bellevue, I-405, Exit 12. Passenger cost/person \$1.00. Return by noon.

Joyce Meyer 425-881-5422

September 11 (Saturday) 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.**

Kay Barrett 425-644-2862

September 11 (Saturday) 6:30 a.m.

Port Townsend & Marrowstone Island

We will visit the Port Townsend area, including Marrowstone and Indian Islands, looking for shorebirds and seabirds. At Point Wilson the tidal rips are close enough to see Pigeon Guillemots, Marbled Murrelets, Rhinoceros Auklets, Loons, etc.; the spit at the end of Marrowstone Island is good for Harlequin Ducks, Black Turnstones and Black Oystercatchers. We might even spot a rarity: last year at this time, a Buff-breasted Sandpiper was at Kah Tai Lagoon in Port Townsend. Meet before 6:30 at the south end of the Kingsgate P&R: (I-405, exit 20B northbound or 20 southbound at NE 124th St., go west to light at 116th Ave NE, then right (north) a few blocks to P&R lot) as we need to catch the **7:10 a.m. ferry** from Edmonds. Expect to be home by early evening. Bring a lunch. **Passenger cost/person \$4.00 plus share ferry costs with driver.** **MaryFrances Mathis 425-803-3026**

September 14 (Tues.) 7-9 p.m. — Education Committee

Meets **2nd Tuesday of each month** in the ELWAS Office. All interested parties are invited. Questions? For information email: education@elwas.org or call **425-576-8805**.

September 18 (Saturday) 7:30 a.m.

Spencer Island

Explore this wetland located near the Everett Sewage Treatment Ponds. Ducks, shorebirds, hawks, eagles, gulls as well as small birds in brushy and grassy areas are all possible in this varied habitat. Bring lunch; will be back mid-afternoon. Meet before 7:30 a.m. at south end of Kingsgate P&R: (I-405, exit 20B northbound or 20 southbound at NE 124th St., go west to light at 116th Ave NE, then right (north) a few blocks to P&R lot). Cost/person \$2.00.

Jim and Nancy Roberts 425-822-1865

September 20 (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**

September 21 (Tues.) 9 a.m. – noon

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.

September 23 (Thursday) 7:00 p.m.

Presentation and Membership meeting

“The Inland Sea: Where Have All the Orcas Gone?” See page 1 for details.

September 27 (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.

October 2 (Saturday) – 9:00 a.m.

Ballard Locks

Join us for a behind-the-scenes tour of the Ballard Locks. The Locks is a great place to find out a bit about Seattle's history, and see our salmon in action all in one place. This is the height of the spawning season, so we should see quite a few fish. We will see the botanical garden, and fish ladder, and get a personal tour of the Locks and learn how they work. Our speaker, Jay Wells, is the Program Director, of the Chittenden Locks Visitor Center and a very dynamic person. Bring the whole family and enjoy a morning on the water. Space is limited, so **call the office (425-576-8805) to reserve your spot**. We will carpool from S. Kirkland Park & Ride at 9:00 a.m., or meet in front of the Visitors Center at the Locks at 10:00 a.m. Passenger cost/person \$2.00.

Welcome!

By Jan McGruder

Please join me in welcoming two new ELWAS leaders.

Sunny Walter is our new Program Chair. She will be organizing speakers for our Membership Meetings, and from what I know of the line up she has for this Fall, we will all be treated to some wonderful programs. If you have any ideas for interesting programs, or have seen any interesting speakers, please let her know, or leave a message at the office.

Emily Winstrom is our new Volunteer Coordinator, and she has jumped right in and grabbed the reins. With her help, we will have a better handle on our volunteers, and be able to do more outreach events for the Chapter. If you'd like to volunteer for ELWAS, and have not yet been contacted by Emily, please feel free to contact her at volunteer@elwas.org, or leave a message at the office.

Welcome to you both!

All About Birds -- Thursday, September 16, 7:00PM Center for Urban Horticulture

Finish off your day by listening to and watching birds. Join Scott Sutcliffe while he demonstrates new and exciting tools to study, monitor, and ultimately protect North American birds. In sight and sound, you will learn about birds and many web-based programs designed especially for you.

Scott is Associate Director at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, sponsors of the Great Backyard Bird Count and Project FeederWatch. He has been a bird enthusiast since the age of six, when his grandfather gave him *The Songbirds of North America*, an early recording from the Cornell Library of Natural Sounds.

Doors open at 6:30PM for refreshments, Master Birder Booth, and Nature Shop selections.

The Center for Urban Horticulture is located at 3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle, in the Laurelhurst neighborhood. From NE 45th Street, turn south on Mary Gates Memorial Way to NE 41st Street.

Another Successful Birdathon!

This past May, our month-long Birdathon fundraiser was a complete success! Because of the efforts of all the teams who went birding for dollars, and the support of their contributors, ELWAS raised \$16,150.00, and the employee matching funds are still rolling in.

This year's awards go to the following:

Rookie of the Year Award - for the most money raised by a rookie (\$494) - goes to **Barbara Spargo** and **Laura Dahlstrom**

Dunka-A-Doo Award - for most money raised by a team - goes to the Bird Brains (**Jim Rettig** and **Sidonia St. Germaine**) - \$3,997

Phoebe Snetzinger Award - for most bird species seen by one team (126) - goes to the Vice Squad (**Lou Ann Harris**, **Christy Anderson**, **Robert Riedl**, and **Tim** and **Jan McGruder**).

Thank you everyone for all your hard work. Those sleepless nights and rainy days were well worth it, and we should be proud of what we accomplished! We'll see you all next May.

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.



*BIRD
of the
MONTH*

Northern Pintail

Anas acuta

by Hugh Jennings



Photo by Tina Klein-Lubbink

The Northern Pintail (NOPI) is about 21" long with a wingspan of 34" and weight of 1.8 lb. (800g). The genus name *Anas* (AY-nas) is Latin for duck. The genus name *acuta* (ack-YOU-tah) is Latin for pointed, as is the tail of this species.

This duck is widespread across North America, Europe and Asia. It is most likely the most numerous duck species in the world, except for the Mallard. The NOPI is slim and long-necked, and has an elegant look both on the water and in flight. They are wary in all seasons and become very secretive during the flightless stage of their molt in late summer. The male's chocolate brown head tops a long, slender white neck. The white extends in a thin line onto the head. The black central tail feathers extend far past the rest of the long, wedge-shaped tail. The female is mottled brown, paler on the head and neck with an overall grayish bill. In flight, both sexes show a long neck, slender body, long, pointed wings and a dark speculum bordered in white on the trailing edge.

Its habitat: marshes, wooded swamps, grain fields, ponds, rivers, lakes, bays and city parks. This duck favors fresh water in any kind of aquatic habitat and only occurs sparingly on coastal waters, mainly in winter on sheltered bays and estuaries. It forages in water by dabbling, submerging the head and neck, upending, but rarely diving. It eats mostly plant material of a wide variety, but also eats insects, mollusks, tadpoles, frogs and small fish.

The nest is of reeds and grasses lined with down and placed on the ground, usually near water but can be up to ½ mile away. The courtship display is complex: during head-up tail-up display, the male stretches the head, wing tips, and tail upward then lowers them. The female's inciting display consists of following her mate while repeatedly flicking her tail back over one side. Six to ten pale greenish white eggs are laid. Incubation, by female only, is 21-25 days. The female leads the young from the nest within a few hours of hatching. The young feed themselves, mostly on aquatic insects and are capable of flight 38-52 days after hatching.

The Northern Pintail migrates in flocks. Northwestward migration begins in early spring while southward migration occurs for much of the fall season.

Volunteers Needed

By Jan McGruder

ELWAS has openings for two leadership positions. A Communications Chair, and someone to maintain the membership database.

The Communication Chair is mostly an oversight position, with the main responsibility of seeing that our message to the public is consistent. You would be expected to attend Board Meetings, as that is where most of our activities are discussed. You would also be responsible for the following:

1. Historian: Oversee history books;
2. Oversee communication of events and activities to Newsletter Editor, Publicity Chair and Webmaster;
3. Newsletter: Proofread newsletter on a monthly basis and assist Editor and Newsletter Labeling Chair, as necessary;
4. Publicity: Oversee publicity that goes out to various media;
5. Webmaster: Attend monthly Web Meetings and assist web committee, as necessary;

The membership database is definitely a hands-on job! We use Microsoft Access, but you need not know anything about this particular program. Familiarity with computers would be helpful, and attention to detail is a MUST. I have complete, step-by-step instructions written out for your reference, and will work with you until you're comfortable enough to proceed on your own.

Each position would require up to 10 hours a month. I'll work directly with you to get you started, and give you any support you might need. In return I'm asking for a 2-year commitment.

If you're interested in finding out more about these positions, please feel free to call or e-mail me: (425) 822-8580 or jan@elwas.org.

Upcoming ELWAS Classes

BIRDING AND ETHNOBOTANY AT MARYMOOR PARK — Saturday, September 18, 2004

Take a walk in the park at Marymoor Park in Redmond with naturalist Eugene Makela and explore the ethnobotany of a river-wetland 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, aquatic creatures, and berries and edible plants providing food sources for birds. Discuss the natural history and ecology of the area, and native culture and ethnic 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 river and wetland 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 Marymoor Park in Redmond at **9:00 AM**.

Bring water and a lunch to eat along the trail.

Parking fee is \$1.00 daily.

We regret this class is not suitable for children under age 16. No pets, please.

Pre-registration required. Limit 20 persons. Call the ELWAS office at 425-576-8805 after September 1, 2004 to register.

Class: Saturday, September 18, 2004, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Fee: \$25 per person for ELWAS members, \$35 per person non-members.

COMPARATIVE IDENTIFICATION AND BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY OF THE SMALLER FALCONS AND ACCIPITERS

Fascinated by hawks and falcons? Still figuring out the difference between Sharp-shins and Cooper's hawks? Let our instructor guide you through the "raptor gauntlet" and sharpen your identification skills of these amazing stealth hunters. He will include the often over-looked "look-a-like" Merlin, Kestrel and Arctic Peregrine to better understand this challenging complex. Using superb images, hand-outs, voice-imprints and inter-active class discussion, you will learn their unique life histories and behaviors. This course consists of one class meeting and one all-day field trip.

Our **instructor** will be **David Drummond**, wildlife biologist and principal investigator on the regional Coastal Forest Merlin Project. David has taught classes at the Olympic Park Institute and the North Cascades Institute and has worked for many Northwest natural resource agencies. He is also an outdoor adventure guide and birding specialist.

Class: Tuesday, **October 12, 2004, 6:30 to 9:30 PM.** Class will meet at the Northlake Unitarian Church, 308 Fourth Avenue, Kirkland, WA, 98033. Class is limited to 20 participants.

Field Trip: Saturday, **October 16, 2004.** Trip will go to the Stillaguamish and Skagit Flats area. Details to be arranged at the class meeting.

Cost: \$45 ELWAS member, \$60 non-ELWAS member. **Class only may be taken for \$35 ELWAS member, \$45 non-ELWAS member.**

Registration: Call the ELWAS office to register at **425-576-8805.**

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FALL AND WINTER WATERBIRDS OF THE NORTHWEST

Confused by all those wintering waterbirds we see in fall and winter? Then this course is for you. Improve your birding skills in both locating and identifying species that winter in Puget Sound and local waterways. The course will cover loons, grebes, cormorants, geese, ducks, swans, alcids and others. Four classroom sessions using slides and recordings and one full-day field trip will teach you the identifying characteristics and vocalizations of these interesting birds.

Our **instructor** will be **Brian Bell**, Master Birder with Seattle Audubon and president of the Washington Ornithological Society. Brian is a professional birding and natural history guide and regularly teaches birding classes for Seattle Audubon, ELWAS, and Shoreline and North Seattle Community Colleges. He has birded extensively throughout the West and Alaska and in most other parts of the USA.

Class: Thursdays, October 14 and 21, and November 4 and 11 from 7:00 to 9:15 P.M. Limit 20 class and field trip, 5 additional class only. Class will meet at Northlake Unitarian Church, 308 Fourth Avenue, Kirkland, WA.

Field trip: Friday, November 12 OR Saturday, November 13. Limit: 10 each day. No registration for the field trip only.

Cost: \$90 ELWAS member, \$110 non-ELWAS member.

Registration: Call ELWAS office to register at **425-576-8805**. **This popular class will fill quickly so call NOW to register.**

ELWAS 2004-2005 Budget	
Income	
Administration	\$2,032
Classes	\$10,000
Fundraising Income	\$39,900
Membership	\$7,900
Sales	\$15,260
Miscellaneous	\$725
Total Income	\$75,817
Cost of Good Sold	
	\$12,210
Gross Profit	\$63,607
Expenses	
Administration	\$37,940
Audubon Center	\$10,405
Communication	\$4,450
Community Outreach	\$500
Conservation	\$250
Contribution	\$2,000
Education	\$3,270
Fundraising	\$3,675
Membership Expenses	\$565
Miscellaneous expense	\$545
	\$63,600
Net Income	\$7

**Help Restore Issaquah’s Streams
Join a Restoration Work Party**

Sept 18 -- 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM

Volunteer to spend a day removing weeds and nurturing native plants along Issaquah’s streams. Working together, we can improve water quality and wildlife habitat, and make Issaquah even more beautiful. All tools and snacks provided. Come prepared to get dirty. Contact Cara Ianni for more information on work party locations: (425) 837-3408 or carai@ci.issaquah.wa.us

**Trees for Issaquah / Sammamish Stewardship Saturdays
(dates below)**

Help get thousands of trees and shrubs planted in public open space lands! This partnership effort can’t work without you! Contact Chrys Bertolotto at (425) 837-3442 or chrysb@ci.issaquah.wa.us to get meeting locations and to sign up. All sessions are from 9 AM – 2:30 PM.

Sammamish Stewardship Saturdays

The kick-off planting event is at Kees Creek -- October 23, 9 AM – 3 PM at Issaquah Christian Church Parking lot at 10305 238th Way SE

Other Stewardship Saturdays are October 30 and 31 (Tibbetts Creek Greenway), November 7 (Dogwood Street), November 13 (South Issaquah Creek Greenway), November 20 (Tibbetts Valley Park), December 11 (Mystery Site), December 12 (Mystery Site!)

Thank You Volunteers!

By Jan McGruder

A big Thank You to all our volunteers for their tireless efforts to support the Chapter, and further our mission to "protect, preserve and enhance nature ecosystems and our communities for the benefit of birds, other wildlife and people." This year we had over 120 active members, and we appreciate all they do! Thanks to Ruth Adamski, Jan Alferness, Christy Anderson, Kathy Andrich, Kay Barrett, John Barrett, Mark Bishop, Melanie Bishop, Nathan Bormann, Tim Boyer, Virginia Bragg, Betty Branson, Roy Branson, Mary Britton-Simmons, Melinda Bronsdon, Alicia Brown, Phil Brown, Carolyn Buck, Connie Christy, Jerred Clouse, Tracey Cummings, Marcia D'Addario, Betty Dean, Denis DeSilvis, Marge Dolecal, Therese Eby, Bertina Espe, Amelia Flores, Houston Flores, Paula Flores, Jim Forrester, Parky Forrester, Liz Fried, Jim Ganley, Jean Goodrich, Tom Grismer, Lou Ann Harris, Gerry Herber, Jo Heber, Michael Hobbs, Ellen Homan, Robert Howson, Bev Jennings, Hugh Jennings, Paul Jensen, Chris Kacoroski, Joy Kacoroski, Kim Kacoroski, Tasha Kacoroski, Judi Kane, Van Kane, Jill Keeney, Betty Kennedy, Tricia Kishel, Carolyn Kishel, Tina Klein-Lebbink, Lea Knapp, Debbie Larson, Roger Leed, Jan Loux, Megan Lyden, Christie Madsen, Derek Mahaffey, Sue Mankowski, MaryFrances Mathis, Andrew McCormick, Jim McCoy, Tim McGruder, Jan McGruder, Amy McQuade, Jim McRoberts, Joyce Meyer, Jackie Miller, Johnny Miller, Valerie Moore, Nancy Nicklas, Glenis Nielsen, Grace Oliver, Ollie Oliver, Sharon Pagel, Warren Pagel, Jane Paige, Anne Pennella, Juliana Pickrell, Keith Pickrell, Judy Rams, Jim Rettig, Jan Rettig, Robert Riedl, Helene Risch, Ralph Risch, Jim Roberts, Nancy Roberts, Tora Roksvog, Kirk Scarbrough, Merry Schmidt, Bill Schmidt, Lorraine Smith, Rich Smith, Chereyl Spink, Sidonia St. Germaine, Len Steiner, Carol Stewart, Martyn Stewart, Diane Stone, Carol Stuckey, Kris Swanson, Pat Vernie, Irene Von Tobel, Linda Wade (deceased), Sunny Walter, Cynthia Wayburn, Josh Webb, Fred Weinmann, Ann Weinmann, Mike West, Jim Wheeler, Diane Whitman, Jerry Worsham, Jean Worthen, Kathy Zanolli.

The Chapter's growth over the last year is an accomplishment of which we can all be proud. Some of what we've done is:

New volunteers and consistent ELWAS representation at Audubon's State and Regional meetings

Increased adult education classes

Presentations to 500+ school-age students and development of four solid school curriculum

Great field trips with higher attendance

Expanded website with a committee of volunteers

Better and more consistent publicity throughout the Eastside

An involved Conservation Committee, several volunteers attending Olympia's Lobby Day, as well as working on issues in several cities in our area

Local governments seek our input in developing policy

Stable membership and growing base of active members

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

If you have volunteered for the Chapter, and your name isn't listed, your volunteer hours may not have been turned in to the Chapter. We ask that all volunteers keep track of their time, and timesheets are available in the office for your use. Otherwise, you may send your volunteer hours directly to Warren Pagel, who keeps track of your hours for us. Warren may be reached by e-mail at wpagel@verizon.net or by calling (425) 483-0980.

If you would like to volunteer for ELWAS this coming year, send an e-mail to our new Volunteer Coordinator, Emily Winstrom at volunteer@elwas.org, or call her at (425) 453-5614.