



The Corvid Crier

Digest for February, 2017

The *Corvid Crier Digest* lists programs, birding activities, and other EAS events.

Events

Program and General Meeting

February 23 (Thursday), Hospitality at 6:30 p.m., Program at 7 p.m.

Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church, 308 4th Avenue South, Kirkland

February Program: Conservation in a Biological Hotspot, a Firsthand Experience in an Indonesian Rainforest with Jim Rettig The Vice President of Eastside Audubon, Jim Rettig, traveled to Mt. Tompotika, Sulawesi, Indonesia in January-February 2016 to participate a scientific study of the tarsier (a small arboreal primate) lead by an international, non-profit partnership. Enjoy beautiful pictures of Indonesia while learning about Jim's experiences in international collaboration and successful species conservation.

Volunteer Opportunities

Marymoor Park Work Party

February 4 (Saturday), 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Join us in restoring the native habitat for birds at the Audubon BirdLoop at Marymoor Park in Redmond on the first Saturday of each month starting at 9 a.m. Dress for the weather, bring work gloves, wear sturdy shoes and bring snacks and water. Meet near the southeast corner of Lot G, by the kiosk. We'll be there with free parking passes and tools. No registration required. Call Tim McGruder with questions, 425-822-8580.

Classes

Learning to Bird by Ear: Common Residents of Puget Sound

Class on March 16 (Thursday) in Kirkland, with optional field trip on March 19 Just in time for spring, Eastside Audubon is pleased to offer a class on birding by ear taught, by Master Birder Penny Rose. An evening of classroom instruction will be followed by an optional field trip on Sunday. Registration is limited to 12 for the option with both class instruction and the field trip. A maximum of 20 will be enrolled for the class only option. See EAS website for details, fee, and registration at www.eastsideaudubon.org or call the EAS office at 425-576-8805.

Beginning Bird Photography Class

March 25 and 26 (Saturday and Sunday), Kirkland Eastside Audubon is pleased to offer a beginning bird photography class taught by local photographer Tyler Hartje. A half day of

classroom instruction on Saturday, will be followed by an optional photo shoot at Juanita Bay Park in Kirkland the next day. Registration is limited to 8 for the option with both class instruction and the field trip. A maximum of 20 will be enrolled for the class only option. Participants should have a DSLR or bridge camera with manual settings and a telephoto lens, along with an interest in advancing their bird photography skills. See EAS website for details, fee, and registration at www.eastsideaudubon.org or call the EAS office at 425-576-8805.

Birding

February 5 (Sunday), 1 to 2 p.m.

Juanita Bay Park Interpretive Tour, Kirkland Eastside Park Rangers lead this easy, one-hour walk on the first Sunday of every month. Free. Children ages 6 and above, accompanied by an adult, are welcome. No registration required. Tours for community schools and special interest groups also can be scheduled through the EAS office: 425-576-8805.

February 18 (Saturday), 7 a.m. to early evening

Samish/Skagit Flats The Samish and Skagit Flats are excellent for raptors and swans in the winter. We will work our way around them searching out the best spots for Trumpeter and Tundra Swans (and any waterfowl) and raptors (falcons, hawks, eagles). We won't overlook any passerines we see. Bring lunch, fluids, a spotting scope and Discover Pass if you have them. We will meet at the north end of the Kingsgate P&R at 7 a.m. and will carpool in three cars (parking is a problem on the Flats). Limit of 11 people. Carpool cost \$18/passenger. **Registration is required.** Call leader Brian Bell at 425-485-8058 to reserve a place. (206-619-0379 morning of trip only.)

February 21 (Tuesday), 9 a.m. to noon

Juanita Bay Park Bird Walk, Kirkland A relaxed walk in the park, seeing what birds are in the area. Meets the third Tuesday of each month. Bring binoculars and meet in parking lot. This can be an enjoyable walk for teens as well as adults. Walks begin at 8 a.m. April through September; 9 a.m. October through March. This can be an enjoyable walk for teens as well as adults. No registration required. Leader: MaryFrances Mathis at 425-803-3026.

February 24 (Friday), 8 a.m. to noon

Lake Sammamish State Park, Issaquah This urban park offers a wide assortment of birds and habitats due to its varied ecosystems. The trip will involve walking approximately 2-3 miles. This can be an enjoyable walk for teens as well as adults. Dress appropriately (rainproof in layers; some of the trails can be muddy if wet). We meet at the main entrance from NW Sammamish Road on the south end of the lake. Take the first left into the large parking lot and meet at the northeast end before 8 a.m. A Discover Pass is required to park. No registration required. Co-led by Sharon Aagaard (425-891-3460) and Stan Wood.

February 25 (Saturday), 7:30 a.m. to early evening

Skagit Flats A winter trip to the tidal flats and waterways of Skagit County presents opportunities to see thousands of Snow Geese, and large flocks of Trumpeter and some Tundra Swans. Waterfowl and some shorebirds will be around and wintering Rough-legged

Hawks and other raptors will be there. We're also sure to find some wintering songbirds. We'll leave from Kingsgate Park & Ride at 7:30 a.m. Bring lunch and dress for the weather. Scopes will be helpful. This trip will be limited to 11 people. Two volunteer drivers will be needed. Passenger cost per person \$10. Return by early evening. **Registration is required.** Call leader Andy McCormick at (425) 518-0892 to reserve a place.

February 27 (Monday), 9 a.m. to noon

Birding the Hot Spots of King County Monthly field trip on fourth Monday of the month to wherever the birds are. Meet before 9 a.m. at north end of the Newport Hills Park-N-Ride (I-405, exit 9) and plan to be back by noon. Children ages 10 and above, accompanied by an adult, are welcome. Carpool passenger cost/person \$2-4, depending on destination. No registration required. Leader: Rusty Hazzard, 425-652-1006.

March 4 (Saturday), 10 a.m. to noon

Family Bird Walk at Juanita Bay Park, Kirkland Join Eastside Audubon for a family bird walk. A ranger will lead the walk at this jewel of a park with varied habitat. See a myriad of ducks, water birds, perhaps a Bald Eagle, Osprey, hawk, hummingbird, Downy Woodpecker or other winter residents. Dress for the weather. Come rain or shine. Easy walking on paved trails and boardwalk. Suitable for children 5 years through teens, but all are welcome. Free parking. No registration required. Contact: Margie Huff, 425-492-0836.

March 8 (Wednesday), 6:30 a.m. to late afternoon

South King County and Puget Sound We'll work our way south along the Puget Sound coast checking several good viewing points. We'll look for loons, grebes, alcids and ducks, keeping an eye out for such hard-to-find birds as Ancient Murrelet (hopefully one will still be around). Meet at Newport Hills P&R (exit 9 from I-405) at 6:30 am. Bring lunch and snacks, and dress for weather. Scopes and a Discover Pass are helpful. Over by late afternoon. Limited to 10 people. Carpool cost is \$22.50 per car, shared equally by riders. Leaders: Brian H. Bell and Nancy Hubly. **Registration is required.** Call Brian at 425-485-8058 to reserve a place. (206-619-0379 morning of trip only.)

March 18 (Saturday), 6:30 a.m. to early evening

Kittitas County Sage Birds March is a good time for sage birds in Kittitas County. We will meet at 6:30 a.m. at the Tibbetts P&R (I-90 exit 15, turn south to 3rd stop signal, turn left a block and then right into the P&R). We will work our way east from Cle Elum/Ellensburg down to Vantage looking for Sage Sparrow, Sage Thrasher, Brewer's Sparrow, and whatever else we can find. Bring lunch, scopes, and dress warmly. Drivers will need a Discover Pass. Carpool cost \$28 per passenger. Limit 11 (in 3 cars). **Registration is required.** Call leader Brian Bell at 425-485-8058 to reserve a place. (206-619-0379 morning of trip only.)