

The Corvid Crier

VOL 31, No 1 – FEBRUARY 2011

The Mission of the Eastside Audubon Society is to protect, preserve and enhance natural ecosystems and our communities for the benefit of birds, other wildlife and people.

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Directions to Eastside Audubon

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.

TAKE THE BUS! Routes 540, 230 and 255 serve State Street in Kirkland.

Welcome New Members

EAS welcomed a large number of new members in the 4th quarter of 2010. We hope you all will participate in activities sponsored by *Eastside Audubon*, whether it is attending the monthly program meeting, going on field trips or volunteering for Marymoor Park BirdLoop work parties. You can get involved as little or as much as you wish.

The new local EAS members are:
Louise Demetrescu, Ruth Godding, Kate Harrington, Suzanne Hays, Nancy Sheets, Mary Nell Sikorra, Shannon Vincent & Michael Wade.

A total of 113 new National Audubon Society members were assigned to EAS during the fourth quarter.

All new members, both EAS and NAS, were sent welcome packets that included information about volunteering and other *Eastside Audubon* activities.

— Zoe Allen

Thank you to all our wonderful donors!

With your generous support in hard economic times, we have been able to continue to provide our services such as: Nine quality program nights, ten quality newsletters, numerous free field trips each month, a website full of information with access to some of the finest birders in the State of Washington.

Throughout our communities your support continues to fund our Youth Education Activities.

Of course EAS plays an active role as a guardian of bird habitat on the Eastside through monitoring land-use issues, providing citizen science data through bird surveys, continuing enhancements of the Audubon BirdLoop at Marymoor Park and participating in Environmental Lobby Day in Olympia.

Thank you for your continuing support
of *Eastside Audubon Society*. We couldn't do it without **YOU!**

Bald Eagle Club (\$1,000+):

Mary Britton-Simmons, Margaret Lie, Jim Rettig, Jim Roberts.

Osprey Club (\$500 to \$999):

Carmen Almodovar, Cindy Balbuena, Jim and Barb Kenney, Tricia Kishel, Andy McCormick, Joyce Meyer.

(Continued on page 9)



Board Notes

Grants: Board Notes for November and December 2010

Update on the Puget Sound Birding Trail Map:

In November, Brian Bell reported that this is the last loop map to be completed in the Birding Trails Map Project. Brian, Michael Hobbs, Hugh Jennings, and Melinda Bronsdon nominated seven sites to be considered for the loop, including Marymoor Park and Juanita Bay Park. The committee also came up with a preliminary list of birds for the Birding Trail Map. Distribution of the map is planned for the end of 2011.

Conservation Committee: In November Andy McCormick updated the board on current proposals before the Washington State Audubon Conservation Committee (WSACC). The board voted to take the following positions on resolutions before WSACC:

1) AGAINST: A resolution to change the way WSACC handles resolutions. WSACC defeated a resolution which would have prevented a project from moving forward without the support of the local chapter whose service area would be affected by the resolution.

2) FOR: Proposal to improve the handling of oil spills in Washington State.

3) FOR: Proposal that WSACC elect a steering committee on an annual basis. The committee will provide guidance and direction to WSACC, be representative of state chapters, and elect a chairperson from among its members.

4) FOR: Proposal to support the Environmental Priorities Coalition 2011 Legislative Priorities. These include:

Coal Free Future for Washington, specifically to transition the TransAlta coal-fired power plant in Centralia to more sustainable and reliable energy.

Reducing Phosphorus Pollution, specifically restricting the sale of phosphorus fertilizer.

2011 Clean Water Act, specifically making polluters pay their fair share to stop the

www.eastsideaudubon.org
Eastside Audubon Society
(425) 576-8805
308 4th Avenue S. (Corner 4th Ave. S. and State)
P.O. Box 3115, Kirkland, WA 98083-3115
Hours: Mon, Tues, Fri - 9am - 1pm

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Eastside Park Ranger	Ted Marx	tedmarx@comcast.net
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Webmaster	Gary Luhm	gluhm@comcast.net
Newsletter	Tamra Chinn	newsletter@eastsideaudubon.org
Birdathon	Open	office@eastsideaudubon.org

flow of polluted runoff into Puget Sound and rivers and lakes across Washington.

Budget Solutions for Our Environment, specifically maintaining environmental protections in the state budget protecting clean water, clean air and parks.

Andy reported in December that WSACC voted to take the positions noted above.

Lobby Day: Andy reported that Lobby Day will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2011. On Lobby Day, Eastside Audubon members join with other environmental groups to meet with our legislators in Olympia and urge the passage of key environmental legislation. For more information about the legislative

priorities, see the People for Puget Sound website at: <http://pugetsound.org/connect/events/021511LD/> If you're interested in attending contact Andy McCormick.

Board Retreat: The board will hold a retreat at the end of January to go over chapter finances and what changes we might make to improve our financial condition.

— Carmen Almodovar



Meetings

Feb 3 (Thurs) 10:30 a.m.

Web Committee

Meets first Thursday each month in EAS Office. All interested parties are invited. Questions? Email: webmaster@eastside-audubon.org

Feb 10 (Thurs) 7:00 p.m.

Photo Group

Meets second Thursday each month in large room upstairs from EAS Office. Questions? Email: Tim Boyer tboyer@seanet.com

Feb 8 (Tues) 7:00 p.m.

Youth Education Committee

We meet the second Tuesday of every month but December and August. All interested parties are invited. Questions? Email: education@eastsideaudubon.org

Feb 9 (Weds) 7:00 p.m.

Conservation Committee

Meets second Wednesday each month in EAS Office. Questions? Email Andrew McCormick: amccormick@eastside-audubon.org

Feb 28 (Mon) 6:00 p.m.

Board Meeting

Meets fourth Monday of the month. Interested in attending? Please contact the office (425-576-8805)



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Deadline for material submission is the first Wednesday of the month preceding publication. Send material by email to:

newsletter@eastsideaudubon.org

Subject: EAS Newsletter

or by mail to:

Eastside Audubon Society

Attn: Tamra Chinn

P. O. Box 3115, Kirkland, WA 98083-3115

Volunteer Spotlight:

Volunteer Spotlight:



This certainly looks like a native of Seattle and one who comes from a family of hearty Oregon Pioneers. The fortitude of her ancestors shows in the life of this EAS member.

Melinda was born and raised in Seattle; received a BA in Zoology and Pre-Med at Pomona College in California; and upon returning home, an MS in Laboratory Medicine from UW. She worked for 30 years as a laboratory and research scientist and retired in 1995 – NOT! She forged on to a second career when awarded a fellowship to CDC (Center for Disease and Control) in Atlanta, Georgia, where she became a Visiting Fellow. Then in 1997, she was appointed a research associate at Johns Hopkins University where she had the opportunity and worked for nearly five years on effects of pediatric respiratory vaccines on the public health amongst Apache and Navajo living in the Southwest.

Returning to Kirkland, this time “fully” retired (no), she accepted work at a local hospital where she stayed on for five years. Then she took on a contract job as crew leader for the 2010 Washington state census (not a simple task).

Melinda enjoys gardening with native plants, volunteering for the Washington Native Plant Society, photography and genealogy. She likes to travel, having visited 38 countries, most recently visiting India, Chile and Costa Rica. This year, she plans to travel to Tibet and Bhutan. She has two sons who live locally. She likes visiting the family cabin near Darrington in north Washington

Melinda joined Audubon after getting married in 1967 and moving to Kirkland. After moving to Atlanta, she joined that local chapter, and then rejoined EAS in 2002 after returning to Kirkland.

Melinda Bronsdon



Her pioneer spirit has shown in the list of volunteer work for EAS: she helped in the EAS office; helped with refreshments at the monthly meetings; chaired the Adult Education programs for four years with successful fundraising through the classes; helped on the local committee for the Washington State Birding Trail; and organized and lead native plant walks. Melinda enjoys the members of EAS, the meetings and getting outside. She says, “Enjoying nature refreshes the soul.”

As for birding, she has been interested in birds and the natural world since childhood. She remembers her third-grade teacher having a subscription to Audubon for students. The magazine had photos of birds that the students could color; this was the science course. And, the image is still in her mind of she and her Mom seeing an impressive Audubon movie at the Seattle Art Museum about the killing of Egrets in the Everglades.

Melinda’s favorite birds? - the song birds - the kingfishers with their feisty and chattering personality- and the woodpeckers. She enjoys bird watching during her travels and remembers the flock of golden flickers and a woodpecker in Nepal, the little red parrots in leafless trees in Australia, colorful kingfishers along Thailand Rivers and the hummingbirds in Central America and South America.

Wow, Melinda, you have experienced and given a lot in your life. Your skill and energy are amazing. Thank you for helping EAS and other avenues in society.

— Marlene Meyer

FIELD TRIPS

Parents and children over 8 are welcome on all trips. **FRS Radio owners, please consider bringing them on trips.** See www.eastsideaudubon.org/events/ for the latest information and for reports of last month's field trips.

Meeting Places for Field Trip

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. 1300 116th Way NE, Kingsgate.

Newport Hills Park and Ride: I-405, exit 9. 5115 113th PL NE, Newport Hills.

South Kirkland Park and Ride: 108th Ave. NE just north of hwy 520 and Northup Way. 10610 NE 38th Pl.

Tibbetts Park and Ride: Take exit 15 from I-90, turn right (south) and go past the new multistory Issaquah Park & Ride to the 3rd traffic light. Turn left (east) on Newport Way NW, go one block and turn right (south) into the Park & Ride. Meet at the west end of the parking lot (away from the entrance) to carpool. 1675 Newport Way NW, Issaquah.

January 29 (Saturday)

8:00 a.m. to noon

West Seattle Shoreline

Explore the shores and waters of West Seattle along Elliot Bay and Puget Sound to Lincoln Park. Numerous viewpoints overlook the water, freighters, ferries and sea birds. Expectations include: golden-eyes, scoters, gulls, Harlequin Ducks and shorebirds. Should be done by noon. Meet before 8:00 a.m. at north end of the Wilburton P&R. Passenger cost/person \$4.00. Hugh Jennings 425-746-6351

February 5 (Saturday)

7:15 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sequim-registration required

The Kitsap Peninsula and Olympic Peninsula around Sequim can be fascinating in the winter. We will look for waterfowl, loons, grebes, alcids, raptors and passerines. We will likely stop at Port Gamble, Salsbury Point, and will work the Sequim area over thoroughly (John Wayne Marina, Railroad Bridge Park, Kitchen Dick Rd, Dungeness area, Three Crabs). Scopes most helpful. Dress for possible wet weather and maybe wind. Bring lunch and money for carpool and ferry. Limited to 11 in three cars. Meet at the south end of the Kingsgate P&R before 7:15 AM (if full, go to the north end of the P&R). Passenger cost/person \$20. Brian H. Bell 425-485-8058 (206-619-0379 morning of trip only).

Feb 5 (Saturday)

9:00 a.m. to noon

Marymoor Birdloop Restoration

Come and Join Us! We meet the first Saturday of each month at 9 am. All are welcome to meet at the Marymoor Park BirdLoop Kiosk - parking lot G. A free parking pass will be provided. Bring water and a snack; gloves, a shovel and a rake if you can.

February 6 (Sunday)

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Native Plant Group Opportunity

Visit the Washington Park Arboretum in Seattle to enjoy winter blooming plants. This is a monthly event led by Park docents, free and open to the public. Not all the plants are natives but the color and fragrance makes a fine short walk on a winter's day. Enjoy the fragrant Witt Winter Garden with its display of beautiful maple bark, winter hazels, sarcococcus and early Prunus species. Look for the resident Anna's Hummingbird. Enjoy the collection of hollies, early rhododendrons and camellias. Common lowland natives are scattered throughout the park. To carpool, meet at the southeast corner of the South Kirkland Park and Ride at 10:30 AM. Or meet the group at the Graham Visitor Center (2300 Arboretum Drive East) parking lot in Seattle at 10:45 AM. Check the website below for more information. To sign up for eastside carpooling only, call Melinda at 425-827-5708. Carpool fee is \$2.00 paid to the driver. This tour is also offered by the arboretum on Sunday, February 20. A similar tour is offered on March 6 and 20, focused on early spring bloomers such as camellias, magnolias and rhododendrons. Check the Classes and Events Calendar at <http://depts.washington.edu/uwbg/visit/calendar.shtml> for more details. You are on your own for these dates and events.

February 12 (Saturday)

7:30 a.m. to Evening

Skagit/Samish Flats Registration Req'd

Walk Green Lake with expert birder Martin Muller who has acquired intimate knowledge of this lake and the 150 bird species found there. Meet by 7:25 a.m. at South Kirkland P&R near the bus stop to carpool, or meet at Green Lake. We will park at the west end of Green Lake near the Bathhouse Theater and meet Martin on the lake side of the theatre, between the brick building and the water. No sign-up, just show up. Passenger cost/person \$2.00 Hugh Jennings 425-746-6351

February 18 (Friday) 8 a.m. to noon-Lake Sammamish State Park

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. Dress appropriately (rainproof in layers; some of the trails can be muddy if wet). Just inside the main entrance, take the first left into the large parking lot and meet at the northeast end. Co-led by Sharon Aagaard and Stan Wood. NO PRE-REGISTRATION NECESSARY. Call Sharon with any questions, 425-891-3460.

Feb 15 (Tuesday)

9:00 to noon Juanita Bay Park Bird Walk

A relaxed walk in the Park, seeing what birds are in the area. Meets the **third Tuesday** of each month at 9:00. Bring binoculars and meet in parking lot. No registration required. **Please note: Walks begin 8am April-September inclusive.** MaryFrances Mathis 425-803-3026 registration required.

February 28 (Monday)

9:00 a.m. to noon

Birding the Hot Spots of King County-Monthly field trip on fourth Monday of



EagleEye
VISION CARE, P.S.

17320 135th Ave NE, # D
Woodinville, WA 98072
(425) 398-1862

See the birds better!

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. Sharon Aagaard 425-891-3460

March 4 (Friday) 11:00 a.m

Kenmore P&R and Library

EAS members will have spotting scopes available at 11:00 a.m. for the public to watch the Great Blue Heron colony at the north end of the Kenmore P&R (Bothell Way and 73rd Ave. NE). There will be a slide presentation about the herons and other birds at the nearby Fire Station about noon. This will be published as an event in the Kenmore Senior Center newsletter. EAS members are invited to come & bring a scope, if they have one. Mike West and Joyce Meyer, 425-868-7986

May 16-21 (Mon.-Sat.) Malheur National Wildlife Refuge

This is an advance notice to determine how many people are interested in this

trip. There is a limit of 12 people. Those who have never been to Malheur will have first priority. I need to make reservations in March to ensure availability for May. The refuge lies in southeastern Oregon, about 30 miles south of Burns, at an elevation of 4,100 feet. Burns is about 500 miles from Bellevue. The refuge, 183,000 acres, is composed of meadows, ponds and extensive wetlands surrounded by sage uplands and basalt rimrock. 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 U.S. More than 320 species of birds and many species of mammals have been observed on the refuge. We will visit the main birding areas within the refuge, and usually see 100-130 species. We will take one day (May 16) to drive to Burns (10-11 hours), spend 4 days birding while there, and one day (May 21) to drive back. We would hope to carpool with 3-4 people per car. The driving costs per passenger will be \$100 for the trip to and from Burns (1000 miles). In addition we would drive

120-130 miles each day, at a cost of \$10/day. Motel costs would be about \$60 for a two-bed room, so if shared by two people cost would be \$30 each night which includes a continental breakfast. The rooms have a refrigerator and a microwave. We would have breakfast at the motel and fix a lunch to take along, then buy dinner at a restaurant. Each morning we will plan to leave by 7-7:30 a.m., bird all day and be back about 4-5 p.m. We will bird a separate area on each day. This is high desert, so plan on dressing in layers for temperatures ranging from freezing at night to 80° during the day. Have binoculars, rain gear, good hiking/walking shoes, insect repellent, sun block lotion and a spotting scope if you have one. After I know who is going I will make reservations and we can make arrangements for carpooling from Bellevue area. Anyone interested in going, email Hugh Jennings: h2ouzel@comcast.net.

Thank You 2010 Volunteers!

To everyone who worked so hard to further the mission of Eastside Audubon Society in 2010, thank you all. In 2010 over 140 of you gave over 6,500 hours of your time to help us accomplish our goals of conservation and education. Sharon Aagaard, Candy Allen, Zoe Allen, Carmen Almodovar, Cindy Balbuena,

Lucille Barnard, Kay Barrett, Brian Bell, Tim Boyer, Roy Branson, Geary Britton-Simmons, Mary Britton-Simmons, Melinda Bronsdon, Clem Bucher, Mary Charbonneau, Tamra Chinn, Patricia Clarke, Rhonda Cone, Mark Crawford, Diane Crestanello, Paula Crockett, Veda DePaepe, Arline DePalma,

Anne Dolan, Glenn Eades, Therese Eby, The Elledge's, Ella Elman, Larry Engles, Dan Fischer, Paula Flores, Mary & Tim Gathers, Maria Gerrald, Bob Gershmel, Jim Hall, Shirley Hall, Sure Harrington, Marie Hartford, Diane Hill, Mary Holt, Ellen Homan, Sara Hoppe, Chris Houden, Margie Huff,

(Continued on page 6)



Don't Know What This Bird Is?

"...Then Take a Shorebird Class with Tim Boyer"

This class will be about Shorebird identification and much more. This class is designed for anyone who is interested in shorebirds and how to identify them. Solve your curiosity about where they go when they're not on the coast, why they migrate through Washington, and what we should know about their conservation and incredible migrations. It is designed for the beginning and intermediate birder.

In two evening sessions we'll cover methodologies for identifying shorebirds. We will learn how to separate out those "brown little peeps," concentrate on viewing similarities and explore ways of telling them apart. We'll discuss the typical identification markings, as well as size, shape, habitat and behavior which will assist in the overall identification of each species. The class is photographically based. You will see multiple im-

ages of each bird; their various stages of growth as well as their breeding time. The side by side images of shorebirds will demonstrate remarkable similarities and differences.

The field trip will be a full day, with a dozen or more stops that will offer a close view of just about all of the common coastal shorebirds. If the class is full, we'll split the class into two field trips making it easier on the birds and the instructor. Possible species include; Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Plovers, Sanderling, Dunlin, Least & Western Sandpipers, Ruddy Turnstone, Short-billed Dowitcher, Willet, Whimbrel, and the Marbled Godwit.

Location: Issaquah REI: 735 Northwest Gilman Boulevard.

Classes: Thursdays, March 31st and April 7th from 6:30-8:30pm.

Field Trips: Saturday, April 23 or Sunday, April 24.

Cost: \$65 members, \$80 nonmembers

Lecture Only: \$40 members, \$55 nonmembers

Limit: 16.

Contact: the Eastside Audubon office at 425-576-8805

Or Tricia Kishel, Birding Chair at: natureisoutside@gmail.com or call 206-948-3922.

Cancun U.N. Conference Makes Small but Important Gains

The U.N. Conference on Climate Change which ended on December 12, 2010 avoided the tremendous failure of last year's conference in Copenhagen. World representatives decided to focus on getting something done even if the agreements reached won't reduce greenhouse gas emissions right away. The decisions they reached have set a stage for future choices which could have a stronger effect in reducing global warming. The conference will reconvene in South Africa in November 2011.

Green Climate Fund

The conference attendees agreed to set up a Green Climate Fund which will support developing countries in addressing the impacts of global climate change. Specifically, it will support the transfer of clean energy technologies, and also reward these countries with much needed financial assistance for maintaining practices that will slow global warming. One of the most important activities is preserving their forests, which absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Deforestation is estimated to contribute to one-fifth of global warming.

A forest acts as a carbon sink and removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. To help developing countries continue their economic growth without cutting down their forests will require financial assistance and sharing of new building technologies from the developed world. The Green Climate Fund establishes a mechanism to transfer funds to these countries.

Keep Global Warming Below 2°C Increase

The agreement also set a goal of keeping average global temperature from rising more than 2°C with future consideration of keeping the increase below 1.5°C. Despite recent snowstorms in Europe which may give some people the impression that the Earth is cooling, worldwide the average global temperature con-

tinues to rise. The greenhouse gases of water vapor, carbon dioxide and methane are the three that trap the most heat around the planet. Keeping global warming below 2°C will require a reduction of these three greenhouse gases.

Developing Countries Need to Reduce Emissions

The conference attendees agreed to reduce emission levels of carbon dioxide by 25 to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2020 in order to be able to prevent the worst impacts of climate change. So far the United States has agreed to a 4 percent decrease below 1990 levels. There is much resistance in the United States to the Kyoto Protocol upon which the current agreements are based. Government officials and business leaders believe it requires more of the United States than of other countries. The organizations Friends of the Earth and Earthjustice believe the U. S. owes deep cuts to the rest of the world because of the tremendous amount of emissions the U. S. has put into the atmosphere since the beginning of the Industrial Age in 1880. Since then average global temperature has risen over 1°C already and is correlated with melting glaciers, expanding deserts, and expansion of the range and earlier migration of many bird species.

Coal Free Washington.

Eastside Audubon has taken a stand to help prevent global warming. The board has agreed to support the Coal Free Washington initiative as well as other conservation measures during the upcoming legislative session and will be sending a delegation to Environmental Lobby Day on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 in Olympia. You can join us. Contact Andy McCormick, Conservation Chair at amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org.

— Andy McCormick

Thank You Volunteers! *(Continued from page 5)*

Evan Hurt, Paula Hurt, Josh Jaycox, Bev Jennings, Hugh Jennings, Janice Johnson, McKale Jones, Peggy Jorgensen, Jill Keeney, Jim Kenney, Geoff Kirk, Carolyn Kishel, Tricia Kishel, Lea Knapp, Helen LaBouy, Robert Lake, C. Larkin, Betsy Law, Alison Leathley, Margaret Lie, Simon Lie, Bruce Lieberman, Bryn Lieberman, Nora Lih, Jan Loux, Gary Luhm, Megan Lyden, Cherri Mann, Peter Marshall, Andrew McCormick, Brandon McCreery, Brett McCreery, Lillianne McCreery, Raeanne McCreery, Scott McCreery, Jan McGruder, Tim McGruder, Jim McRoberts, Irene McVey, Joyce Meyer,

Marlene Meyer, 23 Microsoft volunteers, Leah Morris, Phyllis Moss, Chris Myers, Colin Nebeck, Glenis Nielsen, Ollie Oliver, Jeanette Opiela, Genevieve Orchard, Jane Paige, Dan Paquette, Judy Rams, Jan Rettig, Jerry Rettig, Jim Rettig, Kevin Rettig, Judy Riddell, Jim Roberts, Kelsey Roberts, Nancy Roberts, Tora Roksvog, Karen Roll, Ken Ross, M. Ruthruff, Stephanie Salazar, Bill Schmidt, John Schmied, Janet Skok, Margaret Snell, Len Steiner, Ronda Strauch, Peter Sugarman, Rick Sugg, Maureen Sunn, Dolores Tanno, Mike Taylor, Linda Thompsen, Tom Traeger, John Tubbs, Dolly Turner, Ruben Valenas, Pat Vernie, Sheila Verschaeve, Jean Wallace,

Amanda Walker, Sunny Walter, Leslie Waters, Karen Wear, Diane Weinstein, Claudia Welch, Mike West, Jim Wheeler, Emily Winstrom, Stan Wood, Jenn York. *If you're not listed here we didn't receive your hours before the newsletter deadline. To make sure you are included in our volunteer data be sure to send your hours to volunteer-time@eastsideaudubon.org.*

The volunteer appreciation potluck dinner is January 27th, 6:30PM in the sanctuary at the Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church. Invitations are being sent to all volunteers who have turned in their time.

— Zoe Allen

Donor List (Continued from page 1)

Osprey Club (\$500 to \$999): Continued
Kirk Scarbrough, Karen Tilbury.

Heron Club (\$250 to \$500): Wild Bird Center, Kay Barrett, Sherry and John Douceur, Ed Freedman, Hugh Jennings, Jill Keeney, Patrick Kelley, Bill and Ann Keppler, Helen and Bob LaBouy, Joy Neuzil, Ollie and Grace Oliver, Maureen Sunn, John Tubbs, Cynthia Wayburn, Karen Wear, Claudia Welch, Mike West, Emily and Lee Winstrom.

Goldfinch Club (\$100 to \$249):

Zoe Allen, Christy Anderson, Robert Asanoma, Allan F. Avery, Maria Becker, Jeff and Lisa Berkman, Janette Bower, Roy and Betty Branson, Dr. S. Lori Brown, Linda and Jay Bruce, Gretchen W. Carlson, Richard Carlson, Carol Carlson-Ray, Henry and Shirley Chiles, Jr., Kate Conant, Greg Coy, Dr. Richard A. Crinzi, Paula J. Crockett, Tracey Cummings, Barbara Dietrich, Mary Beth Dols, Natalie and John Dorn, Janet and Bruce Eder, Dan Fischer, Peggy Frohning, Tom Grismer, Erik and Sarah Hagstrom, Shirlee Hall, Jo Herber, Michael Hobbs, Ginger Holser, Janet Horton, Kathleen E. Kemper, Penny Koyama, Jessica Lake, Alison R. Leathley, Lucy Lotto, Jan Loux, Clarice and Jean MacDonald, Derek Mahaffey, Kenneth Mahaffey, Lynn Mares, Lynne Mason, Mary Frances Mathis, Janet E. Merriam, Marlene Meyer, Louise Miller, Marc Montes, Tim Morrison, Lois Mustonen, Christie Norman, Deborah Oftebro, Robert W. Philpott, Jr., Judy Redding, Jill Reifschneider, Jan Rettig, Gaylen Roseburg, Mary Ann Ruthruff, Betty J. Schall, John Schmied, Klaus and Marion Schutz, Noel Schuurman, Andy Shell, Margaret Snell, Sidonia St. Germaine, Dick and Diana Thompson, Mick Thompson, Larry W. Tjoelker, Ellen Trikha, Shelia Verschaeve, Susan Ward-Potts, Diane Weinstein, Gale Whitney, Helen Wong, Stan Wood, Dr. and Mrs. Jerry Worsham,

Corvid Club (\$25 to \$99): David Aagaard, Nancy Alden, Stephen Allen, Doyne Alward, Jim Anderson, Marty and Merl Arnot, Karl and Bernice Atwood,

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(Continued on page 8)

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Sue Welsh, Anna Westfall, Jim Wheeler, Pete and Connie Wheeler, Duane White, Jon Williams, Jean Worthen, Susan Yates, Peggy York.

— Zoe Allen

Bird Of The Month

By Andrew McCormick

Length	5.25 in
Wingspan	8 in
Weight	.39 oz (11 g)
AOU Band code	BCCH

The Black-capped Chickadee is the most common and widespread of the chickadees and is easily identified by the average person. They are common at backyard feeders in winter and prefer deciduous or mixed woodlands. Its namesake *chick-a-dee-dee-dee* call is used in many different contexts such as making contact or as an alarm call. The *fee-bee* song is more common in spring and used to mark territories and attract mates. The Black-capped is one of 15 worldwide species in the genus *Poecile* from the Greek *poikilos*, spotted, pied, or dappled. Seven of the species are found in North America. The species name *atricapilla*, from *ater*, black, and *capillus*, hair of the head, refers to the black crown.

The bird has a black cap, white cheek, black bib, gray back and buffy or pale pink sides. In fall and winter when “fresh,” flight feathers and tail are trimmed in white. Worn summer birds show less white in the wings and tail. Two other chickadees closely resemble the Black-capped. Mountain Chickadees *P. gambeli* are distinguished by a white eye stripe, and Carolina Chickadees *P. carolinensis* have less white in the wings and are gray on the sides.

The Black-capped Chickadee has been well-studied and is known to have a strong linear hierarchy. Old birds are dominant to young ones, and males are dominant to females. High-ranking males have larger territories and eat more. They are preferred by females both as social breeding partners and for extra-pair copulation (Foote, et al). “Dominant pairs

Black-capped Chickadee *Poecile atricapilla*



have larger clutches, greater hatching success, and greater nest survival” (Foote, et al). Unattached birds or floaters will join winter flocks and rank below birds of the same sex. They may insert themselves into a pair bond when a higher ranking bird disappears..

The hierarchical pattern of the Black-capped Chickadee extends to other species in mixed flocks containing nuthatches, titmice, woodpeckers, warblers, and kinglets. These species will respond to chickadee alarm calls and chickadees provide flock cohesion and lead flock movements (Foote, et al). It appears that other species such as nuthatches and juncos can learn chickadee feeding habits at feeders.

Black-capped chickadees do not migrate and can survive winters by dropping their body temperature into a regulated hypothermia on cold winter nights (Foote et al). In some seasons with poor food they may erupt southward for brief periods of time.

They nest in tree hollows such as old woodpecker holes and breed very early in the spring. Both sexes will enlarge the hole and line it with animal fur and moss. Eggs are white with reddish brown dots on the large end. The female incubates 6-8 eggs for less than two weeks and is fed by the male during this time. The young leave the nest in about 16 days (Kaufman). Populations of Black-capped Chickadees are stable, however, flocks in the central U. S have been negatively impacted by West Nile Virus.

A recording of the *fee-bee* song which is sung with no change in pitch in the north-west can be heard at the Macauley Library of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology at <http://macaulaylibrary.org/audio/flashPlayer.do?id=105762>

Photo credit Gary Luhm. References available upon request from amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org.

Keep Track Of Volunteer Hours

It is important that you keep track of the volunteer work you do on behalf of EAS. We use this information when applying for grants and when showcasing Eastside Audubon. All volunteer hours need to be tabulated. Remember to include transportation to and from your volunteer work.

Time sheets are found in the office and should be either mailed to or dropped off at the office or e-mailed to Margaret Snell at: volunteer-time@lists.eastsideaudubon.org.

Please note that these time sheets are for hours in addition to any sign-in forms for committee meetings or events you may have already signed. For example, if you attend an Education Committee meeting, the chair will process the sign-in sheet; you do not have to keep track of the time. However, if you teach a class, you will need to keep track of your own hours of preparation, transportation and teaching students.

— Mary Britton-Simmons

Recycling Info for You

Breaking news! Those styrofoam restaurant take-home clamshell containers (#6 polystyrene) are now recyclable at StyroRecycle in Renton! You no longer have to boycott a favorite restaurant because they are using styrofoam. Remember to bring your big chunk styrofoam to the next general EAS membership meeting for a volunteer to take to StyroRecycle next to IKEA. And now, include those rinsed clean food containers too! (please realize one does not need clean water to rinse these containers, or anything being prepared for recycling - please save water)

For additional information see...styrorecycle.com — Jill and Bev, avid EAS recyclers

If you happen to be going to IKEA in the next month, we can use your help to take a load of styrofoam. The company, V & G StyroRecycle, is located at the west end of the IKEA buildings, 800 S.W. 43rd St., Renton, 98057. The recycling business loading dock is at the western-most storage building of the IKEA site, with access road between IKEA and Alliance Packaging. Or take your own, your neighbor's and family's Styrofoam when you go to IKEA. StyroRecycle is open between Tuesday and Saturday from 9 to 5.

This year Eastside Audubon is excited to support Environmental Priorities Coalition's annual Environmental Lobby Day February 15th, 2011 in Olympia.

**YOU'RE INVITED!
To Environmental Lobby
Day in Olympia**

Check out this YouTube video from last year's Environmental Lobby Day to get a taste of the day, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=82x34yPwhcQ>

The Environmental Priorities Coalition's 2011 legislative package:

1. [Budget Solutions for Our Environment](#)
A proactive approach that will protect our public health, economic future, and quality of life in Washington
2. [Coal Free Future for Washington](#) Protecting our families against poisons and supporting community economic development.
3. [Reducing Phosphorous Pollution](#)
A commonsense and cost effective approach to cleaning up our lakes and rivers.
4. [Working for Clean Water](#) The 2011 Clean Water Act will fund job-creating projects statewide, by building clean water infrastructure that will restore our water ways.

More details about the four priorities can be found at www.environmentalpriorities.org.

Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Time: 9:00 am-6:00 pm

Location: United Churches, Olympia

Pre-Registration is required this year and closes on February 11th. Registration fee \$20. Day of registration is \$25. Includes all breakfast, lunch, materials, appointments and the receptions!

Registration at: <http://pugetsound.org/programs/policy/lobbyday/2011>

Every year, the environmental community identifies legislative priorities to rally resources and grassroots support around during Washington State's legislative session. In 2009, over 500 citizen advocates descended upon the capitol:

During Lobby Day, you will:

- ✓ Learn about the issues: Get briefed by experts on all four priorities.
- ✓ Attend lobbying trainings: Learn the tricks of the trade from top environmental lobbyists.
- ✓ Meet face-to-face with your legislators: Put your knowledge into action in a face to face meeting with your legislator.
- ✓ Attend an important committee hearing on the Capitol campus.
- ✓ Eat well, with a continental breakfast and catered lunch.
- ✓ Celebrate the day with food and drink at our post event reception! This year will be extra special as we will be celebrating the 20th Anniversary of People For Puget Sound.

For more information contact Andy McCormick, amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org or (425) 637-0892.

I hope to see you in Olympia!