

The Corvid Crier

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VOL 33, NO 3 – APRIL 2013

April 27 in Kirkland

6th EAS Plant Sale: Giving You What Your Birds Want

Rare plants, popular plants, gardening advice, habitat improvement for birds and butterflies: You'll find it all at the Eastside Audubon Pacific Northwest Native Plant Sale on Saturday, April 27, in Kirkland.

Kids crafts and a bake sale will round out the day at Kirkland Children's School, 5311 108th Avenue NE, in Kirkland. The sale is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and open to the public. (Bring your neighbors!)

Plant sale manager Geary Britton-Simmons and EAS volunteers are getting 4,000 plants ready to go for the sale. Geary is hoping for more volunteers to post signs and transport plants in the final days. On sale day, there's a variety of jobs for



Ella Elman and Nancy Roberts (in vests, L and R) help customers at the 2012 plant sale. Photo by Mick Thompson.

everyone. To help, please contact: Melinda Bronsdon (Bronson874@aol.com) or Margaret Lie (margaretlie12@gmail.com).

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Next Corvid Crier to Be Last in Print

With the June edition, the *Corvid Crier* will become an e-newsletter, replacing the current format with one that will be more efficient to produce and less expensive.

As an e-newsletter, the *Crier* will come to your inbox as an email message containing brief summaries of the month's news stories and links to the Eastside Audubon website for full stories, event announcements, and field trip notices.

If you already receive the *Crier* by email, you don't need to do anything to continue to receive it as an e-newsletter.

If you currently receive the *Crier* in print, please send the email address

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Robidoux Challenge Grant Raises Birdathon Stakes

We have an unprecedented chance to multiply the impact of our annual Birdathon fundraising campaign next month, thanks to a challenge grant from the Melody S. Robidoux Foundation.

A philanthropic organization created by its namesake, whose husband, Mick Thompson, serves on its board and is our chapter photographer, the Robidoux Foundation has very generously promised to match every Birdathon dollar we raise, up to a grant of \$15,000.

Every year during May, Eastside Audubon members raise funds by birding for pledges, pledging to those who do, and attending special events and birding trips.

This year the Robidoux challenge means a successful Birdathon will do far more than

any before for our conservation and education programs. For example, if we raised \$15,745 as we did in 2012, the Robidoux Foundation would give Eastside Audubon a no-strings grant of \$15,000 — and our Birdathon result would be \$30,745!

In offering the challenge to president Andy McCormick, Mick said that he and Melody had been especially impressed by the wide-ranging achievements of Eastside Audubon volunteers and wanted to show support for their dedication.

It's exciting to think about how much more we can do for birds, wildlife, and our communities by meeting this generous challenge, and we're grateful both for the challenge and the Eastside Audubon volunteers who inspired it.

There's a way for everyone in EAS to be

part of meeting the Robidoux challenge during Birdathon in May. For ideas, please see Birdathon Your Way and Birdathon Trips, Walks, and Teams on page 6.

If you're most comfortable simply making a direct donation to the chapter, there is no better time than this May's Birdathon.

Get Started!

Of course, there's no fundraising without fun! Please come to our first-ever Birdathon Kickoff Party on Tuesday, April 16. We'll have food and live music, and you can pick up tips and materials to help you get organized for Birdathon.

President Andy McCormick is hosting the party at his home in Bellevue. For details and directions, please see the Calendar at www.eastsideaudubon.org.

April Meetings

Unless noted, meetings are at Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church 308 4th Avenue South, Kirkland, downstairs entrance (State Street side).

Youth Education Committee

April 9 (Tuesday), 6:30 p.m.

Meets the second Tuesday of every month except December and August. Open to anyone who likes to share nature with youth. Email education@eastsideaudubon.org.

Conservation Committee

April 10 (Wednesday), 7 p.m.

Meets the second Wednesday of every month except July and August. An effective group engaged in activism and hands-on conservation projects. Email Peter Marshall: psmarshall@comcast.net.

Photo Group

April 11 (Thursday), 7 p.m.

Meets the second Thursday of every month in the church sanctuary. All levels welcome; if you like, bring photos on a jump drive to share. Email Larry Engles: engles@ridesoft.com.

Board Meeting

April 23 (Tuesday), 6:30 p.m.

Interested guests may attend the monthly board meeting. Email Andy McCormick: amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org.

Program Dates for Spring

April 25 Thursday Evening at 7 Kirkland

Photographer Dan Streiffert takes us to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church
308 4th Avenue South

Public welcome! Refreshments at 6:30.

May 18 Saturday Afternoon at 2:30 Issaquah

Taking Eastside Audubon to the community at a family-friendly time

Venue and speaker to be announced.
(No fourth-Thursday program in May)

Public welcome!

Spot Job Can you help keep our log of the dead birds that people bring to EAS? The log is required by the USFWS permit that also allows us to keep bird mounts. Small time commitment. To help, please contact amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org.

Celebrating National Volunteer Month

Eastside Audubon without volunteers would be like a photo of a blank sheet of paper: Nuthin'.

But we've got lots of great volunteers and lots of great photos of them, thanks in large part to chapter photographer Mick Thompson and the late Sunny Walter.

We're featuring volunteers throughout the April *Corvid Crier*. Plus you can see Mick's volunteer slide show online: Go to YouTube.com and search for "Eastside Audubon."

Also, throughout April we'll be featuring a volunteer photo a day on our Facebook page and at www.eastsideaudubon.org. Thank you to all of our volunteers!



Also known for her work on the Audubon BirdLoop at Marymoor Park, Patricia Clarke is seen here selling home-baked goodies at last year's Pacific Northwest Native Plant Sale. Photo by Mick Thompson.

Eastside Audubon Society

Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church
308 4th Avenue South, Kirkland, WA 98083
425-576-8805 www.eastsideaudubon.org

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Friday. 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

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.

Executive Officers

President	Andy McCormick	amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org
Vice President	Shane Egeland	shane.egeland@gmail.com
Secretary	Linda Gresky	lgresky@gmail.com
Treasurer	Dora Rajkhowa	doraalex@yahoo.com

Board Members and Committee Chairs

Birding	Tricia Kishel	tkishel@eastsideaudubon.org
Communication	Mary Brisson	marybrisson@eastsideaudubon.org
Conservation	Peter Marshall	psmarshall@comcast.net
Education	Open	
Development	Andy McCormick	amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org
Membership	Open	
Volunteers	Open	
At large board member	Diane Crestanello	crestanello@comcast.net
At large board member	Open	

Staff

Office Assistant	Zoe Allen	office@eastsideaudubon.org
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Other Committee Chairs

Photo Group	Larry Engles	engles@ridesoft.com
Bird Questions	MaryFrances Mathis	mf.mathis@comcast.net
Birdathon	Andy McCormick	amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org
Field Trips	Hugh Jennings	h2ouzel@comcast.net
Historian	Bob Gershmel	rwgunret1986@yahoo.com
Holiday Gift Wrap	Leah Morris	leahmo@comcast.net
Hospitality	Claudia Welch	425-827-2548
Webmaster	Mary Brisson	mary@marybrisson.net
Chapter Photographer	Mick Thompson	mthomp1707@comcast.net

Eastside Park Rangers

Ranger Liaison to EAS	Ted Marx	tedmarx@comcast.net
EAS Liaison to Rangers	Jill Keeney	j.keeney@comcast.net

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Shorebirds Class Starts April 16

Evening sessions: Tuesdays, April 16 and April 23, 6:30–8:45 p.m.

Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church, 308 Fourth Avenue S., Kirkland.

Field trip: Saturday, April 27. Details to be arranged in class. (May 4 alternate date for those who work the plant sale.)

Cost: \$60 members, \$80 non-members, plus carpool share. For evening sessions only: \$40 members, \$55 non-members.

Register: EAS office, 425-576-8805.

Tim Boyer teaches this class for the beginning or intermediate birder who'd like to work on IDs and hear about shorebirds' fantastic feats of migration.

Through Tim's photos, you'll learn to spot the details that distinguish similar-looking shorebirds by size, shape, habitat, and behavior, as well as field marks.

You'll also learn why shorebirds migrate through Washington and what their intercontinental migrations mean for habitat conservation on the Pacific Flyway and offshore.

The field trip will be a full day around Grays Harbor.

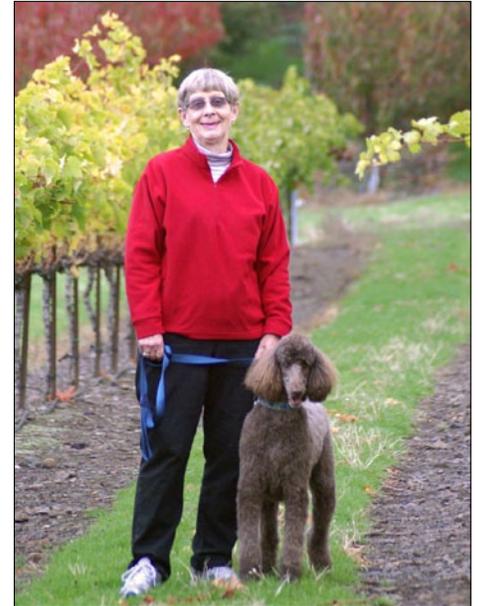
Diane Crestanello Takes At-large Board Post

If you've been to many Eastside Audubon events, chances are Diane Crestanello's face is familiar to you. She's a good fit for her new title, At-large Board Member, because she might be anywhere: a program meeting (try the kitchen), the monthly Lake Sammamish walk, a volunteer event where there's lots of work to do.

Here's Diane:

I am a Washington native, born in Cle Elum and grew up hiking and camping in the Cascades. I attended the UW and spent many years working as a cardiac nurse at Overlake Hospital in Bellevue. When I retired in 2009 I had plans to be involved with EAS to learn about birds and volunteer doing something useful. I am a member of the Youth Education Committee. We teach classes at schools and parks, lead bird walks for children and families, and attend community events. I enjoy the many EAS field trips, classes and meetings, all adding to my birding knowledge.

Editor's note: Our other recently elected at-large board member, Sue Summers, has



Diane Crestanello with Bella, her Standard Poodle. Photo by Marie Cordell.

moved to Denver to take a big step up in her career. That leaves the position open; if you're curious, please contact vice president Shane Egeland: shane.egeland@gmail.com.

Online Newsletter Will Replace Printed *Corvid Crier* in June

Continued from page 1

where you'd like to receive the e-newsletter to office@eastsideaudubon.org.

If You Have No Access to Email

For those chapter members who have no way of receiving email or using the internet, we'll produce a bulletin to let you know about the month's speaker, field trips, and other events.

We may mail the bulletin or make it available in other ways, depending on what we learn in the coming days about the needs of the individuals it's intended to serve.

If you will have no way to receive and read the *Crier* via the internet, please phone or write to our office assistant, Zoe Allen: 425-576-8805 (mailing address on page 2).

Print and Share

The events bulletin also will be made available on the website so anyone can

download and print the monthly schedule of field trips and activities.

In addition, we'll add a page to the website so you can quickly find all of each month's *Crier* articles and print out any of them.

If you know a chapter member who won't be able to receive the e-newsletter or visit the website, please consider printing and sharing the events bulletin and the articles from the website.

Why the Change?

It takes proficiency with a graphic design program and significant volunteer time to lay out the *Corvid Crier* in the present format. We can't count on another EAS member taking over the job in the event of a personnel change, and the cost of sending it out to a professional graphic design service would be prohibitive. The e-newsletter program will be easier to learn and use for the next volunteer who will produce the *Crier*.

The annual cost of sending the e-newsletter through Constant Contact, the service we've selected, will be less than one month's printing cost for the present *Crier*. And, for no additional cost, the same service will allow us to create easier-to-read and more effective emails of other types.

Let's Discuss It

The board's decision to convert the *Crier* to an all-electronic format is a significant change to a long standing tradition. If you have questions or suggestions about the transition, please contact Communication Chair Mary Brisson: mary@marybrisson.net or 425-829-8110.

We'll address the most common questions at the April and May chapter meetings and include any new information in the May edition of the *Corvid Crier*. We'll respond to individual concerns personally.



Beginning birders are welcome on our walks and trips, and so are non-members. Start time is trip departure; **please arrive earlier**. Binoculars advisable.

April 2 (Tuesday), 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Marymoor Park Birding Walk

Some early migrants should be in the park this week and songbirds will be singing. This regional park in Redmond is home to the Audubon BirdLoop, where we will walk on level ground for about two miles along the Sammamish Slough and through the East Meadow, ending at the Clise Mansion area. Meet at Parking Lot D. (When entering the park from West Lake Sammamish Parkway, turn right at third stop sign.) Parking \$1. (Walk is free.) Bring binoculars and a snack, and dress for the weather. No pre-registration required. Leader: Andy McCormick, 425-518-0892.

April 7 (Sunday), 1 – 2 p.m.

Juanita Bay Park

Family Nature Walk with the Eastside Park Rangers
The Rangers lead this easy, one-hour walk on the first Sunday of every month. Free. No pre-registration required. Interpretive tours with the Rangers for community schools and special interest groups can be scheduled through the EAS office: 425-576-8805.

April 13 (Saturday), 10 – 11:30 a.m.

**Juanita Bay Park
Family Birding Walk**

Will you be the first one to welcome back our state bird, the American Goldfinch? Or will you be the one who finds the most nests high in the trees? April is when birds that migrate are here in their pretty spring feathers and singing in the marsh and meadows. It's a great time for kids to go birding — parents and grandparents, too! Please arrive by 10 a.m. for an easy walk with leader Tricia Kishel. Contact: Youth Education Committee, Mary Britton-Simmons, 425-894-0100.

April 16 (Tuesday), 8 a.m. – noon

Juanita Bay Park Bird Walk

See what birds are in the park and on the bay. Varied habitats

within the park host a vast array of species, and the quiet of an early morning is one of the best times to explore. Meets the third Tuesday of each month. Free. No pre-registration required. Bring binoculars and meet in the parking lot. Leader: MaryFrances Mathis, 425-803-3026.

April 22 (Monday), 9 a.m. – noon

Birding the Hot Spots of King County

Monthly field trip on the fourth Monday to wherever the birds are. Meet before 9 a.m. at the north end of the Newport Hills P&R and plan to be back by noon. Carpool \$2 – \$4/passenger. No pre-registration required. Leader: Hugh Jennings, 425-746-6351.

April 29 (Monday), 8 a.m. – noon

Lake Sammamish State Park

This urban park offers a wide assortment of birds and habitats in its varied ecosystems. The trip involves walking 2 to 3 miles. Dress appropriately (rainproof in layers; some of the trails can be very muddy if wet). Just inside the main entrance, 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. (Walk is free.) No pre-registration required. Co-leaders: Sharon Aagaard, 425-891-3460, and Stan Wood.

April 6 (Saturday), 9 a.m. to noon

Marymoor Park Work Party



Glenn Eades (above) leads our habitat restoration work parties on the Audubon BirdLoop on the first Saturday of every month. Everyone is welcome. Meet at the kiosk near Lot G. Parking pass provided. Bring water, a snack, gloves, a shovel and/or rake. Questions? Call the EAS office: 425-576-8805.

Photo by Mick Thompson.

* Discover Pass: \$10 daily/\$30 annual. Can be purchased online at <http://discoverpass.wa.gov> or at a sporting goods store.

Children 8 and older are welcome on all trips; 17 and younger must have adult companion. FRS Radio owners: Please consider bringing them on trips. Find reports of last month's field trips at www.eastsideaudubon.org/birding/field-trips.

**Field Trip
Meeting
Places**

Kingsgate Park & Ride
13001 116th Way NE, Kingsgate. I-405, Exit 20B northbound or 20 southbound, take NE 124th Street west to the light at 116th Avenue NE. Turn right a few blocks to the Park & Ride (on the left). Meet in the southeast corner.
Wilburton Park & Ride: I-405, Exit 12

Newport Hills Park & Ride
5115 113th Pl SE, Bellevue. I-405, Exit 9
South Kirkland Park & Ride
10610 NE 38th Place, Kirkland. SR 520, exit 108th Avenue. Travel north onto 108th Avenue NE. Take the second left onto NE 38th Place.

Tibbetts Lot
1675 Newport Way NW, Issaquah. I-90, Exit 15. Turn right (south). Go past the new multi-story Issaquah Park & Ride to the third traffic light. Turn left (east) on Newport Way NW. Go one block, then turn right (south) into the Park & Ride. Meet across the street from the large parking garage at the west end.

Purple Finch (*Haemorhous purpurens*)

Length	6 inches
Wingspan	10 inches
Weight	0.88 ounces (25 grams)
AOU band code	PUFI

As we spread out this spring to bird in rural areas, we will undoubtedly hear the beautiful, bubbly song of the Purple Finch. In the early spring before breeding season begins, Purple Finches sing in groups. Once paired for nesting, the male Purple Finch sings as a solitary sentry at the top of a tree defining his territory.

Don't be fooled, however, by a drab-looking finch that also may be singing from a similar perch. That is likely to be a first-year male that does not have his red adult feathers yet. He gets a spring season to practice his craft before having to attract a mate.

A Purple Finch is not really purple. It is more of a rose red — that is, if it is a male and has had a good diet. The red is the result of eating foods containing carotenoids, the source of yellow, orange, and red coloration in these finches and many birds. In the Purple, Cassin's, and House Finches these pigments are converted to red. Some individuals do this better than others, so in the field we can see finches in varying shades. This can make it very challenging to distinguish one of these three species from the others. This ID problem is covered in many field guides.

The female Purple Finch has no red at all and looks quite different from the male. It is very boldly marked on the face, with bright white eyebrow and moustache stripes that distinguish it from the female House and Cassin's Finches. The undertail coverts of both the male and female Purple Finch are white feathers with no streaks.

Purple Finches in Washington have a limited migration and move to lower elevations in the winter months. Beginning in February and continuing into May, Purple Finches move back to their breeding range in coniferous forests and oak woodlands



Purple Finch by Dan Streiffert

along streams. The nest is built on the outer end of a tree branch as a compact, open cup of twigs, weeds, and strips of bark, lined with fine grass, moss, and animal hair (Kaufman). The eggs are a pale greenish blue with black and brown markings. Incubation lasts about two weeks, and the birds take flight in two more weeks.

Purple Finches have not adapted to humans the way House Finches have; they remain in mostly rural areas away from human development. This may be changing, as Purple Finches are now seen at some feeders. Their population is considered stable in western North America, but decreases of 50 percent or more have been seen in central and eastern North America in areas invaded by House Finches and after the introduction of House Sparrows.

The lovely song of the Purple Finch can be heard online at the [Macaulay Library](#).

References upon request from amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org.

Native Plant Sale Coming April 27

Continued from page 1

And plan on some time to shop, too! You'll find more than 120 plant species arranged in nine areas representing various types of plants, such as ground covers, flowers, and berry producers.

Volunteer plant specialists and an informative sign for each plant species will help you pick the plants that will enhance your garden and bring in birds and butterflies.

While moms and dads shop, kids can dig their fingers into the dirt at their own planting station, or make butterflies out of coffee filters and play Cookie Chess. For treats, the bake sale will be stocked with home made muffins, cookies, and bars. (Get there for the Dirt Cups!)

To see the list of rarities and popular plants that will be for sale, visit www.eastsideaudubon.org and follow the home page link to the plant sale story.

Sale proceeds will fund our work in conservation and education.

By helping gardeners recreate native habitat for Pacific Northwest birds and wildlife, EAS also supports the National Audubon Society's long-term, intercontinental program to improve conditions for birds that migrate to and from the Arctic on the Pacific Flyway.



Eagle Eye
VISION CARE, P.S.

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

See the birds better!

Birdathon Your Way

You don't have to be an expert birder or chase down 100 species in a day to be part of Birdathon. Many small efforts add up! Here's how you can make a contribution while spring birding the way you like.

Bird for Pledges

Birding for pledges is a powerful way to raise funds for the conservation and education programs of Eastside Audubon, and you can do it your way, at your pace, when you have time. **If you're not comfortable asking others for pledges, you can just pledge to yourself!**

Here are a few ideas you can bend to fit your life:

- Choose a favorite park and bird it during May, once or twice or every week.
- Take a Mother's Day walk with your family and check off the birds you see on our Bird Scavenger Hunt checklist (get it at www.eastsideaudubon.org or at the kickoff party). Have your children draw a bird they see as a thank you for your supporters.
- Take photos. Make a pledge for each bird species you capture, or ask friends to pledge and send photos to say thanks.



Trip leaders Tricia Kishel and Brian Bell share some casual spring birding. Birdathon can be as simple as a walk in the park with a friend. Photo by Sunny Walter.

- Bird from the bus on your way to work, or bird near your office with a colleague during breaks.
- Fill your feeders, make a cup of coffee, and relax in your backyard.

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Birdathon 2013 Trips, Walks, and Teams

Get into Birdathon by going on one of our field trips or walks during May or by joining a Birdathon team. Can't go? Please consider pledging to someone who's taking a field trip or walk or supporting one of the teams.

Special thanks to our wonderful trip and team leaders for the extra effort they put into making Birdathon fun for everyone!

Birding Field Trips and Walks

For each of these activities during May, we suggest a Birdathon donation of \$25 per birder (exceptions noted). Watch for complete trip details in your mailbox in early April and on the calendar at www.eastsideaudubon.org.

Date	Place	Leader
May 4 (Saturday)	Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge	Hugh Jennings
May 8 (Wednesday)	Marymoor Park 5 a.m. Dawn Chorus 7 a.m. Birding Walk (\$25 donation covers both)	Andy McCormick
May 11 (Saturday)	Robinson Canyon	Andy McCormick
May 13 (Monday)	Lake Sammamish State Park	Sharon Aagaard Stan Wood
May 18 (Saturday)	Lake Sammamish State Park 5 a.m. Dawn Chorus (\$25 donation) 10 a.m. Family Birding (Donation optional)	Andy McCormick
May 21 (Tuesday)	Juanita Bay Park	MaryFrances Mathis
May 23 (Thursday)	Whidbey Island	Joyce Meyer Mike West

Birdathon Teams

To join a team or pledge to support a team, please get in touch with the leader. Starting a team of your own? Please let Andy McCormick know; he'll give you tips and publicity: amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org.

Date	Team	Leader
May 10 (Friday)	Whidbey Wing Dings Big Day Team 100+ species likely	Hugh Jennings h2ouzel@comcast.net
May 19 (Sunday)	Karismatic Kestrels Big Day Team 100+ species likely	Andy McCormick amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org (\$1/species personal pledge to join)
May 25 (Saturday)	Greener Herons Urban birding by bus with support from King County Metro & King County Parks	Shane Egeland shane.egeland@gmail.com



Not migratory, but plenty cute: Mallard ducklings are fun for kids to see in spring at Juanita Bay Park. Photo by Mick Thompson.

Ranger-led Nature Walks Highlight Kirkland Outdoor Day for Children May 4

Welcome our winged spring visitors on International Migratory Bird Day with Eastside Audubon and the Eastside Park Rangers on Saturday, May 4, at Juanita Bay Park in Kirkland.

Kids can play at being birds on the wing in the active and educational Migration Game. All ages can join in Ranger-led nature walks to see whether the ducklings have hatched and to look for spring birds.

You may see colorful visitors like the Western Tanager, Cedar Waxwing, or Rufous Hummingbird. Omega Photo of Bellevue will be on hand with loaner binoculars for children to learn how to get a better look.

The free and accessible event is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Youth Education Committee members Jill Keeney and Diane Crestanello are organizing the action.

Birdathon Your Way

Continued from page 6

- Take an EAS walk or trip in May and pledge or seek pledges for the species you'll see.
- If you're traveling in May, bird on the way there, on the way home, or wherever you are.

Visit www.eastsideaudubon.org for more suggestions.

Make a Pledge

Do you like the idea of supporting Eastside Audubon by making a pledge? Here are some options:

Get in touch with one of the teams listed on page 6 and pledge.

Pick a trip leader on the Birdathon Schedule and pledge a donation for every species he or she reports on May trips. Choose a trip from the schedule and pledge for every species the trip will find. (Pledge by email to office@eastsideaudubon.org. We'll follow up.)

Let us match you with a Birdathoner who needs pledges. Email Andy McCormick: amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org.

Birdathon Teams

The teams listed on page 6 would love to have you join or pledge.

Feeling inspired? Start a team of your own! Get a group together from work and earn matching funds from your company. Set out with your fellow photographers for a day of shooting for pledges. Or create your own theme.

For advice on getting your team organized email: amccormick@eastsideaudubon.org.

Omega Photo Sponsoring Beginners' Bird Photography Class as Birdathon Benefit

Introduction to Bird Photography May 5 (Sunday), 10 a.m. – noon

Omega Photo in downtown Bellevue will be the classroom on May 5 for Eastside Audubon photographers Larry Engles and Dan Streiffert to teach their craft.

They'll explain how to anticipate exciting shots, choose the right settings for difficult lighting, and make full use of your digital SLR to create beautiful images of birds in a variety of outdoor settings. They'll also share their gear tips and favorite places to photograph birds.

Omega Photo has generously pledged half of each \$30 registration fee to Eastside Audubon for Birdathon.

The class is open to the public and enrollment is limited. To register, please call Omega Photo, 425-455-2126.

Omega Photo is at 210 105th Avenue NE in Bellevue. For store hours, map, and more information, visit omegaphoto.biz.



Shown here preparing to lead a meeting of the Photo Group, Larry Engles also is Eastside Audubon's go-to guy on office computing matters. Larry will co-teach the Omega Photo class with Dan Streiffert, our April speaker. Photo by Mick Thompson.

Crow Expert Marzluff to Keynote August Conference

By Joyce Meyer

Mark your calendar now for a joint conference of Western Field Ornithologists and the Washington Ornithological Society, hosted by Black Hills Audubon Society this August 22 – 25 in Olympia, Washington.

This conference will feature workshops on fall warblers (Jon Dunn and Kimball Garrett), sapsuckers (Steve Shunk), gull ID (Mike Donahue), dragonfly ID (Dennis Paulson), Wilderness First Aid (Heath Wakelee), and eBird (Brian Sullivan).

John Marzluff will give the keynote talk on corvids. Two afternoon Science Sessions will begin with a plenary talk by Dennis Paulson.

And, of course, there will be a full set of field trips (including pelagics) and both photo and bird sounds sessions.

Registration will open in early May; please watch the conference page on www.westernfieldornithologists.org for more details.

See you in Olympia!

Eastside Audubon Society
P. O. Box 3115
Kirkland, WA 98083-3115

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Kirkland, WA 98083-3115

- \$25* Individual \$250 Heron Club Enclosed is my check made payable to: **Eastside Audubon**
- \$40* Family \$500 Osprey Club Please charge my: ___ MasterCard ___ Visa
- \$100 Goldfinch Club \$1,000 Eagle Club

* Individual and Family members, please add \$12 to receive the Corvid Crier in print by mail. Your Goldfinch Club or higher level membership helps support our camp scholarship fund for low-income children, our college scholarship fund, grants to teachers, and habitat conservation.

Number _____ Exp Date _____
Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____ Telephone (day/eve) _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
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- Please send me the Corvid Crier in print. (Add \$12 to Individual or Family dues.)
- My employer matches contributions. I am sending/will send matching information to you.

Planned Giving
Please consider a planned gift to Eastside Audubon to support environmental education and conservation for generations to come. Because Eastside Audubon is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, your charitable gift will be tax deductible. You may designate your gift to support our general programming or for the permanent endowment fund. Remember: 100 percent of your contribution will go to fund the programs of Eastside Audubon.

- Please add me to your email lists for:
- Conservation updates and action alerts
 - Volunteer opportunities
 - I would like information about making a planned gift
 - I have included Eastside Audubon in my will