



# Columbia Flyway

VANCOUVER AUDUBON SOCIETY

*A Chapter of the National Audubon Society*

vancouveraudubon.org

Chartered December 18, 1975

September 2016

## Calendar

\*\*\*Tuesday, **Sept. 6, 7:00 PM:** Vancouver Audubon Society's General Meeting at the Genealogy Society at 717 Grand Boulevard (Grand & Evergreen) in Vancouver, WA

\*\*\*Tuesday, **Sept. 27, 6:30 PM:** VAS Board Meeting hosted by Arden & Sherry Hagen's, 2203 SE 135th Ave., Vancouver 360-892-8872

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## PROGRAM: *Butterflies:* *Winged Jewels of the World*

Speaker: *Dr. Martin Schwartz*

Few creatures are more evocative of summer, filling us with delight in their colors and delicate flight patterns. But they are surprisingly hardy, able to live all over the world in a wide range of environments and altitudes. Their complex life cycle includes a series of transformations that make butterflies one of the most fascinating insects to study.

Join butterfly enthusiast **Dr. Martin Schwartz** on September 6th as he explores the natural history of these winged beauties. Using photos taken in his travels in North & South America and Asia, Martin will discuss butterfly behavior and ecology, their life cycle and classification. Dr. Schwartz will also describe the habitat on which butterflies depend and how their numbers have been impacted by habitat loss.

Dr. Schwartz, MD, PhD, (Biochemistry) was an Obstetrician/Gynecologist in Portland with Kaiser Permanente from 1977-2011. He currently co-chairs the Multnomah Athletic Club's Walking and Hiking Committee and is a member of the North American Butterfly Association as well as several other conservation groups.



## FIELD TRIP

### *Tillamook, OR*



**Leader:** Arden Hagen, 360-892-8872

**When:** Sept. 17, Saturday

**Time:** 8:00 AM

**Meet at:** Target Store at Jantzen Beach Parking lot. Park in the spots facing Tomahawk Island Drive if available

This is an all day trip for late migrants, seabirds and hopefully a rarity or two! Bring lunch and snacks. **We will carpool.**

**Do not forget to pay your driver for gas.**

**Renew Your Membership this Month**

**Its time to renew!**

September 1st is the new time to renew your Membership to Vancouver Audubon for just \$10.



Membership includes "The Columbia Flyway Newsletter" either in printed copy or an emailed PDF copy (in color). See last page for the coupon form.

\*\*\*\*SEE PAGE 3\*\*\*\*

# Vancouver Audubon

## ACOW 2016 – Wenatchee, WA

Register now for the 2016 annual meeting of the Audubon Council of Washington (ACOW), hosted by North Central Washington Audubon Society and the Eastern Washington Chapters. ACOW is our annual state-wide meeting where members from all Audubon Chapters in Washington gather together for a weekend of information sharing, action opportunities, and fellowship. The theme of this year's meeting is the management of public lands and how the Audubon network can successfully engage in planning and management decisions to build resilient ecosystems that benefit birds and other wildlife.

**Date:** Saturday, October 8, 2016

**Location:** Confluence Technology Center, 285 Technology Center Way, #102, Wenatchee, WA

**Agenda and Information:** <http://wa.audubon.org/events/audubon-council-washington>

**Registration:** \$35 at <http://>

[www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2564495](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2564495)

Highlights at the 2016 ACOW meeting:

The candidates for Commissioner of Public Lands – Dave Upthegrove and Hilary Franz – will speak about their vision for the management and care of Washington State public lands and waterways, and how they intend to engage Washington citizens with their plans.

An update from Seattle Audubon on the Department of Natural Resource's Long Term Conservation Strategy for the Marbled Murrelet, and ways in which the network can take action during the upcoming decision making process.

Agency experts from the US Forest Service, WA Department of Fish & Wildlife, WA Department of Natural Resources, and the Bureau of Land Management will partake in a panel discussion regarding fire ecology and management plans for Eastern Washington, followed by Q&A and potential ways in which the Audubon network can support sound fire management policies and programs in Washington State.

A visit from David Ringer – National Audubon's first Chief Network Officer. David oversees the health, vitality, capacity, diversity and strength of Audubon's vast distributed network. It's a tall order, but David is up for the challenge and excited to meet the effective Audubon network in Washington State!

Additional weekend activities will include:

**Education Workshop** – Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

**WSACC Meeting** – Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

**Friday Night Guest Speaker** – Paul Bannick  
on his new book OWL

**Field Trip** – Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>,

Fire Ecology in North Central Washington

Until October 7<sup>th</sup> - A block of rooms at \$158 (King) and \$178 (two Queen) per night is being held at the Comfort Suites at the Park, 195 E. Penny Road, Wenatchee, within walking distance of the Confluence Technology Center. Hotel reservations may be made by calling (509) 662-1818. AUDUBON is the group name.

Until September 17<sup>th</sup> - A second block of rooms at \$99 (one Queen) and \$109 (two Queen) per night is being held at Super 8 Wenatchee, 1404 N. Miller St., Wenatchee. Hotel reservations may be made by calling (509) 662-3443. AUDUBON SOCIETY is the group name.

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### GO PAPERLESS

#### with the VAS Newsletter

If you would rather have a paperless VAS Newsletter then you can email Sherry Hagen at [littlebirder@comcast.net](mailto:littlebirder@comcast.net) to receive a "PDF" copy of The Columbia Flyway in color sent to you. Include the email address that you wish to have it sent to.

The PDF form is also available on line at:

[www.vancouveraudubon.org](http://www.vancouveraudubon.org)

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**Welcome New Members:** New members are: Syndy Barnes, • Carlee Blackburn, • Rebeca Bollinger, • Paula Brown Hanson, • Janis Bryant, • Kathryn Campbell, • Sheila Campbell, • Tom Canfield, • Kay Christian, • T Gay, • John Harmon, • Elaine Huber, • Russell Hughey, • Barbara Johnson, • Carol Kreiter, • Jody Moore, • Carol Patterson, • Mike Steigelman, • Cindy and Linda Tanager, • Peggy Troendle, • Paul Wolf, • Nancy Wyatt, • Mary Yates

## The Growth Management Plan

The county council adopted the county growth management plan toward the end of June and sent it to the state. Neither Audubon nor Friends of Clark County (which group we work with on issues -- and, full disclosure -- I am also on the board of) are happy with it. It allows for too much development in what is supposed to be the rural area. Too much development would mean compromised habitat, which means less diversity in the county bird population. In July, Futurewise, a Washington non-profit that supports growth management, and Friends of Clark County asked the state Growth Management Hearings Board to review the growth plan and its relevant regulations. A hearing is scheduled for November. So, for now, the growth plan is in the hands of the growth board.

Another group in the county, Clark County Citizens United (CCCU) -- although from what I have seen, the "citizens" seem to be two women who attend every county council meeting. The CCCU also doesn't like the plan, but for different reasons. They want to divide their land.

## Tesoro's Proposed Oil Terminal

I've not done much with the oil terminal issue because a lot of other people are and not many are paying attention to the update of the growth plan. With the growth plan issue in a quiet phase, I decided to check out the oil terminal issue on line. I came across an intriguing, if bizarre, claim as reported on the ThinkProgress website. Oil spills are good for birds!! This claim was in testimony during the Tesoro hearings. The witness for Tesoro, one Gregory Challenger, referenced a spill into the Delaware River in 2004 that shut the duck hunting season down early. To quote: "There were an estimate of 3,000 birds affected by the oil, and 13,000 birds not shot by hunters because of the closed season," he said. "We don't get any credit for that, but it's hard to deny that it's good for birds to not be shot."

Where does one begin with a statement like that? Oil, of course, is lethal to birds that are left

untreated. The following is from the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals website. Oil destroys a bird's feather system. The feather system provides both buoyancy and insulation from cold for the bird. Further, oil is a poison to birds (probably to us, too?). The toxic compounds found in many oils damage the internal organs of birds, including the liver, lungs, and kidneys.

The process of rehabilitating an oiled bird is itself stressful (and stress in the medical sense can be lethal) and must be done carefully. Survival of the bird is not guaranteed. It is much better to prevent the oil spill in the first place. Which is why Tesoro-Savage, otherwise known as Vancouver Energy, must not be permitted to locate a giant oil facility on the Columbia River here in Vancouver. Although I have not actively followed the oil terminal issue and gone to all the meetings, Vancouver Audubon is on record opposing the oil terminal.

Gretchen Starke 

## Change to Newsletter Renewal Date & Membership Dues

### Renewal Date is September 1st

In August 2015, during the update of the chapter bylaws, our Board of directors changed how membership is defined at Vancouver Audubon society (VAS). Please check out the updated VAS Constitution & Bylaws through the button on the left for a more thorough explanation.

This means that now when you send in your newsletter renewal in the fall you will also be considered a member of VAS. How great is that?!

In addition, we changed the renewal date from **November 1st** to **September 1st**. Membership dues are \$10 and members will continue to receive the **Columbia Flyway** newsletter **and** will be entitled to one vote for elections and other voted activities.

George Mayfield at [\(360\) 687-0360](tel:3606870360)

email: [gomayf@comcast.net](mailto:gomayf@comcast.net)

Eric Bjorkman at [\(360\) 695-3116](tel:3606953116)

email: [bjorkmante@iinet.com](mailto:bjorkmante@iinet.com)

This summer was pretty slow locally for unusual birds and at our place at the west end of the Columbia Gorge we had really slow birding due to a family of **COOPER'S HAWKS** that nested in our woods and made multiple daily visits to our bird feeders. The three juveniles were still in our yard into August and keeping migrant birds moving and deep in the bushes. In June, Les Carlson, George Mayfield, Barry Woodruff and I made a trip to Maine and New Hampshire to see some of the species from that area. We were pretty lucky in finding most of the species we were hoping for and added a bonus bird, a **LITTLE EGRET**, a European species that is very rare in North America. I ended up adding seven species to my checklist, one of the most productive trips for me in years. The iconic **ATLANTIC PUFFIN** was my 725th species seen in the lower forty-eight states.

**Aug. 4**, Inspired by Bob Flores' reports of shorebirds at Rest Lake at Ridgefield NWR, Jim Danzenbaker headed over this morning and found the following: **30 GREATER YELLOWLEGS, 3 LESSER YELLOWLEGS, 6 KILL-DEER, 24 LEAST SANDPIPER, 3 WESTERN SANDPIPER, 1 SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER, 40 LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER and 2 WILSON'S SNIPE.**

In Washougal, **3 or 4 BLACK SWIFTS** were seen over the Orchard Hills Golf Course by Arden Hagen.

**Aug. 6**, Jim Danzenbaker enjoyed some birding in his Battle Ground yard this morning. Warblers and flycatcher were quite noticeable and very active with: **3 WILLOW FLYCATCHER, 1 PACIFIC-SLOPE FLYCATCHER, 1 WESTERN WOOD PEWEE, 1 WARBLING VIREO, 2 WILSON'S WARBLER, 3 YELLOW WARBLER, 4 BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER, 1 MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER, 1 WESTERN TANAGER and a BLACK-HEADED GROSBEEK.**

**Aug. 11**, Fall migrants were evident in Jim Danzenbaker's Battle Ground area yard, he had **4 WILLOW FLYCATCHERS, 2 WESTERN WOOD-PEWEEES, 5 WARBLING VIREO**, a singing **CASSIN'S VIREO, 1 RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH, 3 ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLERS, 2 YELLOW WARBLERS, 3 BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLERS, 1 COMMON YELLOWTHROAT, 2 WILSON'S WARBLERS, 1 BLACK-HEADED GROSBEEK, 1 WESTERN TANAGER** and a flyover **EVENING GROSBEEK.**

**Aug. 14**, while driving home from Spokane, Arden & Sherry Hagen did a small side trip to Othello, WA for the reported **SCISSORTAILED FLYCATCHER.** It was on the lines north of Hwy 24 and west of Othello. Several birders already had it staked out. Sherry also photographed it.



This species is normally seen in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and a few other surrounding states.

Les Carlson spotted a **RED-NECKED PHALAROPE** in a small pond in his Hazel Dell neighborhood and there was a **GREEN HERON** there also.

The month of September will be exciting for birders as we continue to see migrant shorebirds passing through along with the neo-tropical species that nested both here and to the north. Mixed flocks of these warblers, vireos and others can be found traveling with feeding groups of chickadees. White-fronted Geese, one of the earliest migrating waterfowl, will be passing over in large numbers with a few small flocks setting down to rest in the Ridgefield/Vancouver Lake Lowlands. Most waterfowl won't start arriving until October and the earlier arrivals that are seen are often in eclipse plumage, making them harder to identify. Please let me know of the migrants that you notice for inclusion in this column and for the County Year List Project. As of early August, 201 species have been reported from Clark County in 2016 and 167 birds have been seen in Skamania County. to see the complete list for all 39 counties go to: <http://wabirder.com/bartel.html> If you have seen a species not checked off please let me know. If you find anything unusual or interesting please contact me, the Hagens and the Bjorkmans as soon as possible.

*Wilson Cady, gorgebirds@juno.com*

## INJURED BIRDS: WHAT TO DO?

We have no Bird Rehabilitators in the Vancouver Area that we know of. So what should you do if you find yourself in this situation?

**Many Birds that hit a window just need some time to rest to get "their wind back" before taking off again.** Try putting them in

a box with plenty of air for an hour or more until you hear movement then take them outdoors and test if they are ready to fly off. If not then....



1. Call the **Portland Audubon Wildlife Care Center** for information: 503-292-0304  
5151 NW Cornell Rd, Portland OR
2. Call Arden or Sherry Hagen for information: 360-892-8872 If they are available to transport a bird to the Portland Audubon Wildlife Care Center then they ask that they receive a gas mileage compensation and a small donation for the Care Center for the care of the bird at the time of pick up.
3. There is 24 hr **Animals Hospital called DoveLewis** in downtown Portland that will take the bird overnight if the Portland Audubon Wildlife is closed.  
1945 NW Pettygrove 503-228-7281

### **In the meantime....**

Keep the bird in a box with small air holes.

You might offer water via a dropper, and if necessary watered down puppy chow to supply nutrients.

## Happenings at Ridgefield NWR

### Birdfest & Bluegrass Festival

The *Birdfest and Bluegrass Festival* will be held in Ridgefield on the first weekend in October, Saturday and Sunday, October 1 & 2. The schedule of activities will be posted on the Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge website about September 1. Everyone is invited of course. There will be plenty of kids activities and walks and talks on birding, archaeology, cultural history, and geology. As always, Vancouver Audubon Society plays an important part in the festival by leading bird walks and staffing scope stations. We also provide a table to introduce visitors to the Vancouver Audubon club.

**How to help for walks and scoping:** If you have a couple free hours and would like to assist in any of these programs, we would like to hear from you. Arden Hagen and George Mayfield will be leading the bird walks on Saturday and Sunday morning at 8:30 am. We could use extra volunteers to help them on the trail. Many of the folks taking the walks are new to birding so you don't have to be an expert to help out. Also, Susan Setterberg will be staffing the scope station, which is inside the hunter's gate on the auto tour. It is a rare view of the refuge. Last year we had dancing cranes for most of the 9 am to 3 pm station hours. A couple hours assisting Susan would be very helpful and provide a great birding experience. For either of these activities, contact Susan at [smsetterberg@yahoo.com](mailto:smsetterberg@yahoo.com) or 360-980-0884.

**How to help at the VAS table:** We have an indoor table in downtown Ridgefield for Saturday and Sunday and we need to staff that table. We have displays and some handouts on what to feed birds and how to join the club. It is an easy, but important duty. You don't have to be a birding expert to do it, just enjoy meeting people and

telling them about our club. We usually schedule two hour blocks of time after which, or before, you can enjoy the vendors and activities in town. Please contact Bonnie Bingle at [audubonie@comcast.net](mailto:audubonie@comcast.net) or 360-576-0330 to sign up to help.

### New Nature/Education Center to be built at Ridgefield NWR

The Fish and Wildlife Service has contracted a design and engineering firm to design office space and an associated nature/educational center on the Carty Unit. This fast tracked activity is underway now and includes seeking ideas from interested parties for the facility that could provide a visitor education venue and research opportunities. Ridgefield NWR refuge is a gem in the midst of a growing county. It offers serene wildlife viewing, archaeological opportunities, a fascinating geology history and opportunities to learn about the cultures of those who came before us. It is important that the structure we place there enhances the experience while protecting the treasure that we have. There are two ways to participate. The second scoping meeting will be held on September 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am in Ridgefield (place will be posted on the Friends or RNWR Website). There will be a third scoping meeting scheduled during Birdfest, where all the information gathered to date will be presented and additional input will be solicited. In addition, if you can't attend a scoping meeting, you can voice your ideas or concerns on line by going to:

<http://www.ridgefieldcommunityandnaturecenter.com/>.

This is the first step to make this a reality. Once the scoping and design phase is completed, the Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge will lead the effort to raise the necessary funds to build the Nature/Education portion of the building. Fish and Wildlife Service will provide the funds to build the attached offices so staff can be together in a modern facility, rather than the trailer and shop offices they now inhabit.

**VANCOUVER AUDUBON SOCIETY**

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Vancouver, WA 98668-1966

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*Mission Statement:  
Vancouver Audubon  
believes in the wisdom  
of nature's design and  
promotes this through  
education, involvement,  
stewardship, enjoyment  
and advocacy.*

***September 2016***

**THE COLUMBIA FLYWAY** is the monthly newsletter of the Vancouver Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Publication **deadline** is at the board meeting each month.

**VANCOUVER AUDUBON \*\* MEMBERSHIP & DONATION COUPON**

**Membership dues support speaker programs, Flyway production and conservation projects.**

- I wish to become a member/renew membership to Vancouver Audubon for \$10/year.
- I wish to support Vancouver Audubon with an additional donations of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish only to support Vancouver Audubon with a donations of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I prefer to receive the VAS Flyway by printed copy \_\_\_\_\_ by email \_\_\_\_\_ [PDF]
- Do Not share** my name or any of my personal information with other organizations

**Flyway Renewal date:**  
September 1st  
every year

**Chapter Code: Y13**

**Please include this coupon** and make check payable to and send to:  
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For more Info Call:  
George Mayfield 360-687-0360  
Eric Bjorkman 360-695-3116

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