



President's Report: Pilchuck Audubon Moves Forward on Legacy Gift

By Kathleen Snyder, President

I am so pleased to announce that Pilchuck Audubon now has a Development Director.. Jim Beneteau has moved from Development Committee member to director and is now a member of our board. Jim was born in Washington D.C. and spent time in North Dakota and Minnesota before landing in Washington where he and his wife live in Arlington. He has a Master's degree in English from the University of Washington. He taught high school and community college English before becoming a technical writer for Boeing. He retired in 2011 after 25 years there. His hobbies are birding and performance art. Jim will take charge of our fundraising campaigns including Bird-a-thon and a new legacy gift program. Welcome and thank you for joining us, Jim.

Back in May 2013, the board of Pilchuck Audubon first became aware of the name of Robert Royce of Tulalip. It was during this month that we were informed that Mr. Royce had bequeathed PAS with a \$100,000 legacy gift. To say we were shocked and thrilled would not be an exaggeration. With all the excitement came the realization of what a big responsibility it was to use this gift in a way that would honor both Mr. Royce's memory and make a difference in our natural world. We decided to use the funds for something above and beyond what we were already doing.

In that vein, the Royce Advisory Committee was formed. Terry Nightingale, Vice-president, Joan Poor, Avian Science Chair, Jay Ward, Board member-at-large, Art Wait, Field Trip Chair, and Annette Colombini, former Profile editor, met monthly over 2014 to come up with recommendations for the board on ways to use the gift. This cumulated at a special board meeting on December 12 where the committee presented their report to the full board. The highlights of that report are as follows:

Guidelines used by committee to evaluate recommendations:

(Continued on page 4)

January Program Meeting: Swans of Washington's Winter Friday, January 9, 7:00 PM



Martha Jordan will present a program on Washington's native Trumpeter and Tundra swans covering their life history, biology and new information on migration patterns. She will shed light on the problems these birds face on their wintering grounds (including lead poisoning and habitat issues) and how to insure their future.

Excellent photos that will clarify the difficult identification of these swans. For more information, leave message at 425.252.0926 or email president@pilchuckaudubon.org.

7:00 - 8:30 pm
Everett Firefighter's Hall
2411 Hewitt Avenue, Everett

Search the Internet while doing some good

Use Goodsearch and with every search, money gets donated to PAS.



Join and make a difference for Pilchuck Audubon Society

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Conservation Report

By Allen Gibbs, Conservation Committee Chair

The “omnibus appropriations bill” (mostly the National Defense Act) passed the Congress last month. Some of the bill contents have nothing to do with defense spending, and have not been well accepted. But some have been welcomed.

FLREA Extended Two Years – The PNW National Forest Annual/Daily Pass issued by all Oregon and Washington national forests will continue to be sold to the end of September 2016. The Interagency lifetime “access” and “senior” passes will continue to be sold too. “Thank you” to all PAS members who wrote their congressional representatives urging extension of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act of 2004 authorization. **It does not apply to Washington State’s annual “Discover Pass.”**

New Wilderness, National Park and Wild/Scenic River Designations in WA State – The Alpine Lakes Wilderness has been extended some 22,000 acres into the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River drainage east of North Bend, and some of that fork plus the Pratt River have been designated wild or scenic status. Illabot Creek which enters the Skagit River near Rockport on SR 20 is now mostly a wild river protected from development. Hanford’s Reactor B will join two other sites for the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. The boundary in the Stephan Mather Wilderness in the

North Cascades National Park Complex in the upper Stehekin River Valley will be modified to permit relocation of the washed out Stehekin River road.

2015-2017 WA State Biennium – The next WA State legislative session begins January 12, 2015. It will be the long session which historically is when most of the biennial budget and appropriation allocations are made. There are lots of proposals about transportation, education, climate change, and oil and gas shipments into and through the state. A list of all PAS’s state legislators and their contact information will be available on the PAS website for your use in mid-January.

Audubon Lobby Day – February 18, 2015, will be Audubon Lobby Day in Olympia, for Auduboners to carry key messages to their state legislators. Details will be in the February PROFILE. Black Hills Chapter is helping with overnight arrangements for participants wanting to work early or late that date.

About Pilchuck Audubon Society



The Pilchuck Audubon *Profile*, official newsletter of Pilchuck Audubon Society, is published monthly.

Pilchuck Audubon Society (PAS) is a grass-roots environmental organization with members throughout Snohomish County and Camano Island, Washington.

Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife for the benefit of earth’s biological diversity.

Through education, advocacy, and community activism, PAS is committed to bringing people closer to wildlife in order to build a deeper understanding of the powerful links between healthy ecosystems and human beings, and to

encourage the involvement of our members in efforts to protect the habitat this wildlife depends upon for survival.

We serve as a local chapter of the National Audubon Society. PAS is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, nonprofit organization incorporated in the state of Washington.

Newsletter Submissions

Submit articles to newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org or mail to 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198, Snohomish, WA 98290-1742.

Submissions must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication. We reserve the right to edit.

To contact Pilchuck Audubon Society, call 425.252.0926.

The monthly *Profile* is available online at www.pilchuckaudubon.org

Board of Directors

President	Kathleen Snyder.....	president@pilchuckaudubon.org
Vice President	Merry Nightingale	.vice-president@pilchuckaudubon.org
Secretary	Kathy Piland.....	253.736.4937
Treasurer	Carolyn Lacy	360.668.2494
Conservation	Allen Gibbs	conservation@pilchuckaudubon.org
Membership Chair	Bonnie Campbell	425.493.8721
Avian Science	Joan Poor.....	avianprojects@pilchuckaudubon.org
Development	Jim Beneteau	
Members at Large	Laurel Cheap ...	classroom.awards@pilchuckaudubon.org
	Kathy Johnson	425.252.0926
	Jay Ward	425.418.3226

Committee Chairs

Bird Sightings	Mara Price	backyard@pilchuckaudubon.org
Communications	Lindsey Cramer.....	425.252.0926
Conservation Awards	Laurel Cheap ...	classroom.awards@pilchuckaudubon.org
Donations	Judy Chapman.....	donations@pilchuckaudubon.org
Education	Open.....	education@pilchuckaudubon.org
Field Trips	Art Wait.....	360.563.0181
Forest Practices	Kathy Johnson	forest@pilchuckaudubon.org
Hospitality	Virginia Clark.....	360.435.3750
Legal Advisor	Pete Dewell.....	206.281.8082
Program	Susie Schaefer	garden@pilchuckaudubon.org
Publicity	Judy Alles.....	360.793.1343
Volunteer Coordinator	Open	
Webmaster	Carol Curtin	webmaster@pilchuckaudubon.org

Staff

Smart Growth	Kristin Kelly.....	425.923.8625
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Trip Calendar

Check our calendar at www.pilchuckaudubon.org for the latest information

Tuesday, January 6 **Silvana Roads**

Meet at 8:00 AM at Quilceda Village Wal-Mart(I-5-Exit 200). Park near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I-5. Pipits, Waterfowl, Shorebirds, Falcons, all the winter LBJ's. We may also visit the Eide Road site. Pack a lunch.
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark [360-435-3750](tel:360-435-3750)

Tuesday, January 13 **N. Everett to S. Marysville**

Meet at 8:00 AM at Legion Park off North Marine Drive, Everett. Explore the North Everett Waterfront and the Snohomish River Estuary, including the Marysville Sewage Facility. View Osprey, eagles, hawks, waterfowl, shorebirds and gulls. Pack a lunch.
Trip Leader: Art Wait [360-563-0181](tel:360-563-0181)

Tuesday, January 20 **Deception Pass Area**

Meet at 8:00 AM at Quilceda Village Wal-Mart(I-5-Exit 200). Park near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I-5. View Oyster catchers, Loons, Mergansers, LBJs. Pack a lunch.
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark [360-435-3750](tel:360-435-3750)

Saturday, January 24 **Seward Park**

Meet at 8:00 AM at Everett Mall. We'll carpool to Seward Park situated on a forested peninsula that juts out into Lake Washington. We'll walk the paved loop trail around the peninsula looking for waterfowl on the lake and listening for forest bird sounds coming from the landward side of the trail. Optional socializing event over lunch. Bring snacks, water, and foul weather gear. Half-day event.
Trip Leader: Terry Nightingale, 206.619.2383

Tuesday, January 27 **Guemes Island**

Meet at 8:00 AM at Quilceda Village Wal-Mart(I-5-Exit 200). Park near Quilceda Blvd. and next to I-5. Ride a tiny ferry, then relax and enjoy unique Guemes Island, its people, birds and dogs. Pack a lunch.
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark [360-435-3750](tel:360-435-3750)

Upcoming Events, Festivals, and Classes

Washington Ornithological Society

January 5 **Seattle**

Join in for Members' Photo Night, a much anticipated and enjoyable evening. Free and open to the public. Center for Urban Horticulture, UW campus, 3501 NE 41st St. <http://www.wos.org/meetings.html>

Of a Feather: Artists, Birds and the Northwest

January 14 – June 7 **Auburn**

The White River Valley Museum in Auburn opens their powerful art exhibit of works featuring and inspired by

birds. White River Valley Museum, 918 H Street SE. <http://www.wrvmuseum.org/>

Sound Waters

February 7

Langley

Come to Whidbey Island for more than 60 fun, informative classes and presentations about the natural world and the fragile environment of the Salish Sea. No prior knowledge is required to attend – just an interest in learning about and taking care of this amazing place that we call home. Register at <http://beachwatchers.net/soundwaters/wp/>.

Port Susan Snow Goose Festival

February 28 – March 1

Stanwood

Enjoy classes, lectures, field trips, marketplace and art show all within a region which supports some of the greatest concentrations of shorebirds, raptors, waterfowl, and seabirds found along the northern Pacific Flyway (as well as Snow Geese and Trumpeter Swans). <http://www.snowgoosefest.org/>

WANTED

SWIFT NIGHT OUT 2015 CHAIR



Photo by Kathleen Snyder

Pilchuck Audubon's biggest event of the year is in need of a new Chair for 2015. Swift Night Out draws over 1,200 people to enjoy food, kids' crafts, educational booths, and the spectacular vision of thousands of Vaux's Swifts entering the Wagner Chimney in Monroe. All the instructions plus an on-going, dynamic committee are at your disposal.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT KATHLEEN SNYDER at 425-971-8021

President's Report...

(Continued from page 1)

- The mission of PAS to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds and other wildlife, for the benefit of the earth's biological diversity
- The wishes of Mr. Royce – he did not specify how he wanted the funds to be used but it is known that his passion was backyard habitat
- Continuing or emulating proven, successful PAS programs when they align with these guidelines
- Focusing on projects with the greatest positive impact to the largest number of people or wildlife for the longest time
- Keeping investment within Snohomish County whenever possible
- Considering how much volunteer involvement is required

Priorities approved by the PAS board, in order of implementation:

1. Commemorative bench honoring Mr. Royce, location to be determined.
2. Education: As PAS already has a classroom grant program focused on elementary school aged children, the Royce funds would focus on other ages – preschool, middle and high school, as well as college and graduate level students. Specific ideas include scholarships to underserved youth, sponsoring a nature center at the Children's Museum in Everett, scholarships for graduate students in ornithology, and school assemblies or field trips at the high school level.
3. Backyard Habitat Programs: Ideas for this priority include a program to advise homeowners on native plants and wildlife needs, providing stipends to homeowners to modify their yards to benefit birds, and designating a migration corridor within Snohomish County which we would then work to improve by collaborating with the homeowners or the public entities within it.
4. Vaux's Swift Project: Pilchuck has been involved with the Vaux's Swifts and their chimney roosts for years and are looking into building an artificial chimney in locations where the original chimney roost has been lost. If we can find a prototype and methodology that works, it is possible that we could expand the project to the entire Pacific Flyway and be instrumental in increasing the odds that the Vaux's will survive the effects of climate change.

The priorities are in place and the PAS board is now ready to implement them. The first opportunity to proceed will be at the biennial board retreat in February. We will start at the top by choosing a location for the memorial bench and then move on to consider which educational project to implement first.

We foresee that at least four committees will be needed to shepherd these projects/priorities. If you are interested in participating (just think – no fundraising required!), please contact me at president@pilchuckaudubon.org or 425-971-8021. We are so pleased to have this opportunity to honor Robert Royce and assist the birds he loved.

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

February 13 – 16

Launched in 1998 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, the Great Backyard Bird Count was the first online citizen-science project to collect data on wild birds and to display results in near real-time. Since



Dark-eyed junco by Annette Colombini

then, more than 100,000 people of all ages and walks of life have joined the four-day count each February to create an annual snapshot of the distribution and abundance of birds.

To participate, simply tally the numbers and kinds of birds you see for at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count, **February 13-16, 2015**. You can count from any location, anywhere in the world! Scientists use information from the Great Backyard Bird Count, along with observations from other citizen-science projects, such as the [Christmas Bird Count](#), [Project FeederWatch](#), and [eBird](#), to get the "big picture" about what is happening to bird populations.

The longer these data are collected, the more meaningful they become in helping scientists investigate far-reaching questions, like:

- How will the weather and climate change influence bird populations?
- How will the timing of birds' migrations compare with past years?
- How are bird diseases, such as West Nile virus, affecting birds in different regions?
- What kinds of differences in bird diversity are apparent in

SAVE THE DATE!

Alan Mearns, a scientist with will teach a class on participating in the Great Backyard Bird Watch Saturday, February 7th, 10 am – noon at the Willow Creek Demonstration Garden classroom, 95 Pine St. Edmonds. He will go over basic bird identification, methods of correctly counting, and how to submit counts to the project.

Class is free but pre-registration is requested to Susie Schaefer, garden@pilchuckaudubon.org or 425-771-8165.

Smart Growth Report

By Kristin Kelly, Smart Growth Director

Happy New Year!

Monitoring land use in Snohomish County is a continual process - one that takes time, persistence and awareness.

As part of my work as Smart Growth Director, I receive numerous phone calls and emails throughout the year regarding potential code enforcement issues. Many times those complaints are driven by a new development going into a neighborhood. There are questions and concerns about whether the development should be allowed, if grading and filling are allowed, if development will affect streams, wetlands and buffers, and where drainage from new roads, driveways, and rooftops will go.

If you live in unincorporated Snohomish County (if you live in a city, you need to find out their code enforcement regulations), code enforcement is solely citizen driven. County staff does not travel around the county looking for problems such as lack of permits. It is up to all of us to ensure our land is being properly developed and/or protected.

During 2015, we all need to be vigilant. New rules and regulations for land use and protection of critical areas will be updated. Even current rules and regulations are complicated and many times ignored. If you think there is illegal land use activity going on in your area, call the county's (or city's) code enforcement division and make a complaint. Visit <http://snohomishcountywa.gov/1154/Report-a-Code-Violation> to make a report.

Avian Advocacy in the 2015 Washington State Legislative Session

By Jen Syrowitz, Chapter Conservation Manager
Audubon Washington

Avian advocates across Washington are gearing up for the 2015 Washington State Legislative Session. The Governor's new [climate legislation](#) focused on curbing pollution and transitioning Washington to cleaner sources of energy, ensures we have a full plate of issues and plenty of opportunities for important activist participation.

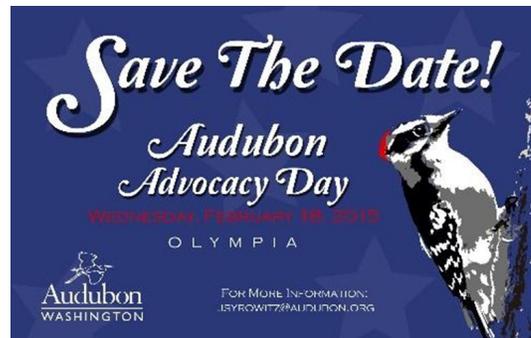
What we are working on

Audubon advocacy efforts in Washington during the 2015 session will focus on marine birds/forage fish and climate change, including carbon emissions reduction, clean energy options and fossil fuel transport and export. In September 2014, National Audubon released the [results of a seven year study](#) predicting how climate

change could affect the ranges of 588 North American birds. A few weeks later at a meeting of all Audubon chapters in Washington, the state Conservation Committee passed a resolution [opposing increased oil transport and export](#) through Washington. We continue to work with flyway, state, and local partners to advocate for the needs of marine birds throughout the Salish Sea and along our outer coast.

Who we are working with

Since 2003, Audubon has been a member of the [Environmental Priorities Coalition](#), a collaboration of over 20 leading environmental groups in Washington that work to influence policy at the state level. Their priorities for the 2015 legislative session will be oil transport and climate/carbon reduction. Audubon Washington is also partnered with the [West Coast Climate Campaign](#), a group of environmental organizations in California, Oregon, and Washington working on strategies to combat climate change in the Pacific Northwest through carbon pricing, replacing coal with clean energy, and reducing carbon pollution from transportation with a clean fuel standard. [Sound Action](#) is a strong shoreline health advocate whose mission aligns with our coastal stewardship work.



Plan of action

Audubon Washington and Black Hills Audubon Society are hosting an [Audubon Advocacy Day](#) on Wednesday, February 18, 2015. Please join us for a day of constituent conversations on issues of concern to Audubon members – let's make our voices heard on behalf of birds with our elected officials. More information and logistical updates are available at <http://wa.audubon.org/legislative-session-2015>.

Weekly legislative updates will be sent from the state office to the WaGeneral listserve. If you are not on this list, please sign up at <http://wa.audubon.org/communication-tools>. New in 2015, Audubon Washington will send out participatory action alerts around our most pressing issues. Be sure to take advantage of these easy activist actions and help us show the power and extent of our grassroots network! As stated by Audubon President and CEO, David Yarnold, you are what hope looks like to a bird.



Pilchuck Audubon Society
1429 Avenue D, PMB 198
Snohomish, WA 98290

Pilchuck Audubon Society Membership Information

Support your local Audubon chapter by becoming a member. PAS dues are tax deductible (consult your tax professional for details). The PAS tax ID number is 91-6183664.

- New Member \$28
- Renewal \$28
- Lifetime Member \$1,000
 - 10 monthly payments of \$100
 - 4 quarterly payments of \$250
 - 1 payment of \$1,000
- Donation \$ _____
 - My employer will match my contribution!
My employer's gift matching form is enclosed with my contribution.

Make checks payable to: Pilchuck Audubon Society

Mail to: Pilchuck Audubon Society
1429 Avenue D, PMB 198
Snohomish, WA 98290-1742

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____

Send me these via email (check all that apply & include your email address above):

- Profile Newsletter
- Program Announcements
- Action Alerts

Pilchuck Audubon Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable corporation registered with the Secretary of State's office. Your contributions are tax deductible.

SAVE THE DATES

Klickitat County May 16, 17 and 18

North Eastern WA Adventure June 11, 12,
13, 14

This will be our 5th year heading to Klickitat County for birds and wildflowers in a special part of Washington for 3 days. And there will be a new trip making a 5 day circle through the northeastern corner of our state.

These trips are open to everyone but are limited to 12 people in 3 cars. We share expenses for gas, food and lodging.

If interested, contact Susie Schaefer [425-771-8165](tel:425-771-8165) or garden@pilchuckaudubon.org.

The itineraries are not finalized and suggestions are welcome. There will be more trip details in upcoming newsletters.