



## People of PAS

*By Kathleen Snyder, President*

We at Pilchuck Audubon Society (PAS) get so involved with policy and project campaigns that we sometimes forget to honor the very talented people who make up our organization. This article will feature two of our members who are great examples of people who celebrate and champion for birds and their natural environment.

Rex Guichard started carving birds in the 1980's when he realized his photography hobby was taking him away from his young family a little too often. His interest was piqued when he attended a demonstration of carving and live birds at the Seattle Eddie Bauer store. Carving lessons from Don Osier followed where he learned how to make a pattern and how to form his own "blank" (the rectangular block of wood which becomes the carving). He visited the Burke Museum on the University of Washington campus to study bird specimens and kept taking photos to study how birds posed in their natural environments. A retired Seattle firefighter, Rex has improved enough over the years to win Best of Show, Lifesize Wildfowl Division, in April at the Pacific Flyway Decoy Association competition in Sacramento. Actually he won 1<sup>st</sup> Best of Show for his Western Screech Owl and 3rd Best of Show, same division, for his Northern Shrike. Although Rex has had one commission, he does the carvings, one per year, for his own enjoyment and gets too attached to them to sell. His favorite part of the process is painting and exploring new painting techniques. He is currently working on a Northern Pygmy Owl which he will show in Vancouver at the Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show in September.



*(Continued on page 4)*

## September Program Meeting Friday, September 5, 7:30 PM

Author, illustrator and sculptor, Tony Angell has won numerous writing and artistic awards for his work on behalf of nature including the prestigious Master Artist Award of the Leigh Yawkey Art Museum. His sculptural forms celebrating nature are to be found in public and private collections throughout the country. Tony has worked actively as a board member of Washington's chapter of The Nature Conservancy, is an elected Fellow of the National Sculpture Society, and retired in 2002 as Director of Environmental Education for the state of Washington after 30 years. Since the 1970s Tony has published a number of books, principally about the birds of the Northwest. Tony will present a look at one artist's history of responding creatively in stone, bronze and line to the rich and diverse bird forms and personalities in the Pacific Northwest. For more information, leave message at 425.252.0926 or email [president@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:president@pilchuckaudubon.org).

### Special Time/Location – Sept Only!

**7:30–9 PM**  
**Edmonds Plaza Room**  
**650 Main Street, Edmonds**

### New Photos on Our Website



Be sure to check out our new photographer, Annette Colombini, whose work is now featured on our website Photo Gallery.

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# Conservation Report: Marine Birds In Decline

By Allen Gibbs, Conservation Committee Chair

You may have recently read the excellent Seattle Times story on this subject by Craig Welch. A guest commentary written by Audubon Washington's Trina Bayard, Director of Bird Conservation, followed Welch's story. Links to both are at the end of this column.

The State Legislature passed a law during in 1943 to protect fish habitat and fish populations from adverse impacts by in-water structures such as bulkheads, piers, dredging, marinas, export barging facilities, etc. The law, now called the Washington Hydraulic Code, required a state issued permit for marine nearshore and freshwater development proposals for such structures. Some fifty-plus years later, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) was given the responsibility to design such a permit now called an HPA (Hydraulic Project Approval).

WDFW wrote a forage fish management plan in the late 1990s. However, forage fish populations continue to decline, along with bird, fish, and other wildlife populations dependent on forage fish. WDFW has not been able to conduct the necessary research upon which to base decisions leading to HPA approval, denial, or mitigation required for the permit process.

Recently, WDFW announced that it is proposing revisions to the Hydraulic Code and rulemaking

process. After public comment is considered and whatever revisions are made to the draft document, a proposal will be made to the Fish and Wildlife Commission for adoption.

Sound Action has taken the lead among Puget Sound conservation groups in analyzing the 500+ -page draft and the related environmental impact statement issued by WDFW. Many groups are concerned at the failure of the current hydraulic code to protect fish and their habitats. Also the proposed language could weaken a code with already demonstrated weakness. At the time of this writing, your Conservation Committee is developing a comment letter which will be submitted to WDFW by the September 15 deadline.

There is no doubt that any decision by the Fish and Wildlife Commission, and request for funding of an improved Hydraulic Permit Approval process, will be on the floor of the next biennial State Legislature which will cover 2015-2017. Opportunities will be abundant for PAS and other Puget Sound stakeholders to advise on policy and implementation.

[http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/opinion/2024321376\\_trinabayardopedmarinelifexxml.html](http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/opinion/2024321376_trinabayardopedmarinelifexxml.html)

There is a link in Trina Bayard's guest commentary to Craig Welch's article.



## 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](mailto:newsletter@pilchuckaudubon.org) or mail to 1429 Avenue D, PMB 198, Snohomish, WA 98290-1742.

Submissions must be received by the 15<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.pilchuckaudubon.org)

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## Trip Calendar

Check our calendar at [www.pilchuckaudubon.org](http://www.pilchuckaudubon.org) for the latest information

### Tuesday, September 2 PAS Properties

Meet at 8 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart west of Marysville (I-5 Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd and next to I-5. We will bird our Jim Creek property and Jordan Road Sites along with other bird areas, such as River Meadows County Park. Pack a lunch.  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360.435.3750

### Tuesday, September 9 Deception Pass area

Meet at 7:30 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart west of Marysville (I-5 Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd and next to I-5. Along with Deception Pass, we will visit Campbell Lake, Rosario Beach and Cranberry Lake. Oyster catchers, Loons, Mergansers, LBJs, etc. Pack a lunch.  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360.435.3750

### Tuesday, September 16 Rockport to Diablo Dam

Meet at 7 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart west of Marysville (I-5 Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd and next to I-5. Black Swifts and Gray Jays likely. Our route will pass through Oso. Pack a Lunch.  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360.435.3750

### Tuesday, September 23 Silvana Roads

Meet at 8 AM at Quilceda Village Walmart west of Marysville (I-5 Exit 200). Park away from store, to the east, near Quilceda Blvd and next to I-5. Past years we have seen Northern shrikes, a Pectoral and a Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and three falcon species. If time allows, we may visit the Port Susan Nature Conservancy site. Pack a lunch.  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360.435.3750

### Tuesday, September 30 Sequim

Meet at 7:20 AM at the Edmonds Wade James Theater Parking Lot. The theater's address is 950 Main Street, Edmonds, 98020, just east of 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. on the South side of Main St. We'll take the ferry to Kingston and bird the voyage, the docks, go through Port Gamble and across the floating bridge. We will bird Sequim Bay, Dungeness Recreational Area, and whatever else we fancy. Lots of waterfowl, shorebirds and surprises. Bring a lunch.  
Trip Leader: Virginia Clark, 360.435.3750

### Save the Date for the Annual Mushroom Hike!

Saturday, October 4

RSVP required to Kathy Johnson  
360.659.7252 or [forest@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:forest@pilchuckaudubon.org)

## Monroe Swift Night Out

Saturday, September 13, 5 PM until dusk  
Wagner Center  
639 W Main Street, Monroe

Mark your calendars, so you don't miss the return of the Vaux's (pronounced "voxes") Swifts to the Wagner Center chimney in Monroe as they migrate south for the winter. Celebrate the arrival of one of the largest congregations of Vaux's Swifts in North America while watching thousands of these small birds squeezing themselves into a 31-foot tall, 4-foot square chimney in just minutes. As many as 26,000 Vaux's Swifts have been observed entering this chimney in one evening (September 7, 2010). We are hoping for a large turnout of swifts on September 13.

At the event, there will be booths with informative displays and nature-related items. One booth allows children and adults to touch actual bird "skins" and to compare the sizes of different species of birds. There will be activities for children plus a spaghetti dinner, hot dog booth and an apple crisp option. And you won't want to miss Larry Schwitters' lecture on Vaux's Swifts at 6:30 PM. Docents will be present to answer questions from 6-8 PM. If you are a birder and would like to docent at this event, please contact Susie Schaefer at 425.771.8165.

Bring your family and friends, a blanket, a folding chair or just sit on the lawn, and watch the swifts' aerial performances. You will be glad you did! You will leave feeling privileged to have witnessed one of nature's amazing spectacles!

## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Fest with Friends

Thursday, September 18, 6:30 to 9:30 PM  
At the home of Snohomish Mayor  
Karen Guzak and Warner Blake  
230 Avenue B, Snohomish

This delicious fundraising event for Pilchuck Audubon Society's Smart Growth Program and for Futurewise's work in Snohomish County brings together our local farms, wineries and guest chefs to celebrate Washington's rich agricultural heritage. Funds raised will protect our farmlands, forests and shorelines. Guests will be able to sample delicious signature dishes and wines from some of our best local chefs and wineries.

Please RSVP and pay \$50 with credit card on-line at <http://tinyurl.com/mbug66f>. Or send RSVP and check to Kristin Kelly, 1429 Avenue D, Snohomish, WA 98290.

## People of PAS...

*(Continued from page 1)*

Rex is also well known in Pilchuck circles for his bird photos. His work was featured in our website photo gallery in June of 2013 and his photos are often used on our website and in the Profile. You can visit with Rex at our monthly program meetings where he is in charge of the used book sale and literature table. Good luck Rex!

Kathy Johnson is one of our long term members. She joined PAS in 1987 when she felt a need to make a difference in saving forests. She became a member of the Conservation Committee which had about 20 members. A smaller group decided to form an Adopt-a-Forest Committee which has evolved into our Forest Practices Committee which Kathy now chairs.

Kathy grew up in the Puget Sound area and her interest in forests began early. When she was a preschooler, she watched the forest next to her house being razed for a new elementary school. She believed her parents' statement that "You can't stop progress" until she was in her mid-twenties. Two of the campaigns on which Kathy worked where that adage proved false were the Mt. Loop highway expansion project and the Canyon Creek Salvage timber sale, also in the Mt. Loop area. In 1997, the Federal Highway Administration wanted to widen and pave the Mt Loop Highway to make it accessible for heavy traffic and recreational vehicles. Along with some local residents, PAS spearheaded a move to leave the road as it was and finally the FHA dropped their plans. Today, the Mt. Loop remains a slow paced and beautiful drive during summer months.

Kathy is proud of her efforts to stop the salvage logging on Canyon Creek. In the mid-1990's, the Forest Service planned to log approximately 150 acres of old growth forest, with trees up to 800 years old that had been damaged by insects. Kathy and David Wuerntz of Conservation NW fought to leave the area as it was. First they appealed the logging decision. When that didn't stop the project, they threatened to sue the Forest Service and that brought an end to it. Kathy



*(Photo by Kevin Geraghty)*

reports that she watched Northern Goshawks cruising the area as the dying trees became open space. Currently Kathy is an At-Large board member for PAS as well as a working veterinarian. Kathy spends as much time as possible in her beloved forests, often near Monte Cristo or elsewhere off the Mt. Loop highway where her favorite place is. Thank you, Kathy, for your years of being a steward of our forests.

In a world with unlimited newsletter space, I would write about each and every one of our exceptional volunteers. In the real world, I can only express my unending appreciation to all of you who work to put the needs of wildlife on an equal par with our needs. Good stewardship of the earth is, of course, in our own best interest.



*Annual PAS Picnic (Photo by Allen Gibbs)*

## Seed sale September 13 Order Deadline, September 7



It's time to lay in a supply of seed and suet to feed our feathered friends through autumn and winter. PAS birdseed sale order deadline is Sunday, September 7. For a price list and to order, contact Carolyn Lacy at [carolacy@gmail.com](mailto:carolacy@gmail.com) or 206.245.5836. Pick up orders in Everett between 9–11 AM. on Saturday, September 13, at Sno-

Isle Natural Foods Co-op. Address is 2804 Grand Avenue, Everett (first floor at the back of the building—enter from alley behind the building). Jay Ward and other volunteers will be on hand to help load the seed.

If you'd prefer to pick up your seed in Edmonds, let Carolyn know when you place your order. You'll need to arrange a pickup time with Joan Poor, 425.771.5581 or [paperboats@aol.com](mailto:paperboats@aol.com).

## Smart Growth Report

By Kristin Kelly, Smart Growth Director

In the April Profile, my Smart Growth column focused on trees and how important they are environmentally, economically, and aesthetically for our growing urban communities. This year, Snohomish County Planning and Development Services (PDS), on the request of the landscaping codes for tree replacement and retention for residential areas of the unincorporated urban growth areas.

In 2009, these codes were revised in an attempt to retain more trees as subdivisions were being built. The usual practice was to clear-cut, put in the subdivision and then replant with small trees. The current code has a provision that for any "significant" tree that is cut, it has to be replaced on site or within the area (as feasible) by either a one to one, two to one, or three to one ratio depending on the size of the tree. Developers have complained that for heavily wooded land, it is impossible to replant that many trees on site.

The new amendments being proposed by PDS go from a replacement ratio to "tree canopy" coverage. The process is controversial. Pilchuck Audubon, Futurewise, and several active citizens believe there need to be more regulations for tree retention and not just replacement. The proposed amendments went through the Planning Commission which did not recommend the changes to the County Council.

Since then, PDS held two 3-hour meetings with stakeholders (including me) on both sides of the issue to look for consensus. The development community was inflexible. Consequently, PDS put together a package of amendments that will be considered by the County Council. Some were based on our recommendations and some on the development communities wishes. The County Council is in the middle of being briefed on this. The actual hearing will most likely be sometime in mid-to late-September. It is unclear where the county council stands on this issue or if they will offer up more amendments.

If you are interested in reading the ordinance, staff report, and amendments so far, please contact me at [Kristin@futurewise.org](mailto:Kristin@futurewise.org). Look for an action alert on this issue soon. Help us retain more trees in our urban growth areas!



## Upcoming Events, Festivals, and Classes

Check our calendar at [www.pilchuckaudubon.org](http://www.pilchuckaudubon.org) for more

### Puget Sound Bird Fest

September 5-7

Edmonds

In Edmonds, Washington is a yearly celebration of birds and nature found on the beautiful shores of Puget Sound. The three-day event includes speakers, guided walks, land and water-based field trips, exhibits, and educational activities for children and adults. Register at [www.pugetsoundbirdfest.org](http://www.pugetsoundbirdfest.org).

### Birds of the Sinlahekin

September 6

Loomis

This field trip to find and identify birds throughout the Sinlahekin is led by Penny Rose, president of the Washington Ornithological Society, and local birder Scott Hoskin. For more info, visit [http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife\\_areas/sinlahekin/75thanniversary.php](http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas/sinlahekin/75thanniversary.php).

### Chelan Ridge Hawk Migration Festival

September 13

Pateros

Join the Methow Valley Ranger District, North Central Washington Audubon Society, and HawkWatch International this fall for the fifth annual Chelan Ridge Hawk Migration Festival! A free family event with activities in Pateros and a field trip to the Wells Wildlife Area. Trip details at <http://www.ncwaudubon.org/events.html>.

### Wenatchee River Salmon Festival

September 20

Leavenworth

The Salmon Festival is fun for all ages and admission and activities are free. Come and take part in the many intergenerational hands-on activities, interactive exhibits, wildlife edu-tainment, music, art and meaningful cultural exchanges with Native Americans in their tribal village. Visit [www.salmonfest.org](http://www.salmonfest.org) for info.

### Monterey Bay Birding Festival

September 25-28

Watsonville, California

Designed for both seasoned and beginning birders, the festival offers a unique opportunity to explore and appreciate world class habitats such as the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Elkhorn Slough National Marine Estuary, and Pinnacles National Monument. Specially designed field trips will take participants to Big Sur to see California condors. Join a pelagic trip by Shearwater Journeys. Jump into a kayak or take a scenic ride at Elkhorn Slough Safari. All field trips are led by top quality, friendly leaders. Festival info found at <http://montereybaybirding.org/>



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

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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.

# WANTED

## Profile Newsletter Editor

The Committee Chair position of Newsletter Editor is open and we are looking for a volunteer to take this on. Our monthly Profile is our most pivotal communication tool and is recognized across the nation. We are looking for someone that is dedicated, creative, and has an eye for detail. Hours per month vary between 10–20 depending on length of the newsletter. Familiarity with Microsoft Office programs is required.

Contact Kathleen Snyder at 425.971.8021. or [president@pilchuckaudubon.org](mailto:president@pilchuckaudubon.org) if you are interested in learning more about the position.