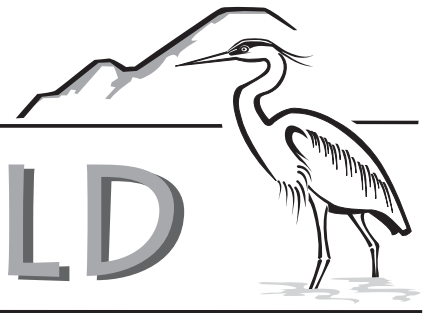


# THE HERON HERALD



Rainier Audubon Society • September 2007

Vol 26 No.7

Check us out on the web: [www.rainieraudubon.org](http://www.rainieraudubon.org)

Rainier Audubon Presents:

## "Birding by Kayak"

Monday, September 17, 7:00 PM

We are all familiar with birding in our backyards, in the mountains while hiking, at a wildlife refuge, or at the beach. How about from a kayak? Can one really do serious bird watching from a kayak? Gary Luhm will show us that it is not only possible, but that a kayak provides a great vantage point for capturing beautiful images of sea birds. Gary is an outdoor photographer specializing in sea kayaking. Shooting photos from his kayak throughout Alaska and North America for 15 years, his images and articles on kayaking, photography, and bird-watching have appeared in *SeaKayaker*, *Canoe & Kayak*, *Paddler*, *Sierra*, *National Wildlife*, *Outside*, and many books

and calendars.

Gary began photographing from his kayak when he took up the sport in 1992. His interest in birding and bird photography followed, and most of his bird imagery has been accomplished by kayak. Join Gary for an engaging view of bird life and birding locations from the unique perspective of the sea kayak. Get close-up views of tough-to-see birds like Virginia Rail, Marbled Murrelet and Tufted Puffin, on location from California to Alaska, and especially Puget Sound.

Please join Rainier Audubon as we



PIED-BILLED GREBE W/CHICK BY GARY LUHM

welcome Gary and kickoff a new season with an unforgettable program. Whether you are a bird watcher, photographer, or kayaker - or all three - this program will have something for you. Refreshments and conversation available before, during and following the program.

## 2007 Christmas Bird Count — Join us!

By Nancy Streiffert

Let's take just a minute to look ahead to winter, while still enjoying the last days of summer: Time to put the Rainier Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC) on your calendar for Sunday, December 30! Over 100 years of CBCs nationwide have contributed valuable data on overwintering, migration, predator/prey relationship, avian disease, habitat use, and other information to many agencies in many fields. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to join the birdwatchers who gather this information in one enjoyable day of birding each year. The CBC goes from dawn to dusk, as participants spread out into the field and cover our 15-mile radius circle, counting and recording all the birds seen or heard. Any one birder does not have to be out the whole time, but may choose their time period. If you are unable to go into the field, you may count the birds at your backyard feeder instead. At the end of the day, we meet for dinner at The Black Bear Diner in Federal Way (formerly Coco's) to share experiences and compile our final count, which is sent to Cornell University. As a participant, you will receive a copy of the final results nationwide. For information or to sign up, please contact Nancy Streiffert at (253) 852-8394 or by email at [nancy\\_streiffert@hotmail.com](mailto:nancy_streiffert@hotmail.com).

Free  
and open  
to the public

**September Program**  
**Monday, September 17, 2007**

**7:00 PM**  
(doors open at 6:30)

**Federal Way**  
**United Methodist Church**  
(directions on next page)

**Field Trips on Page 4**

# RAS Calendar

SEPTEMBER 12, WEDNESDAY — 6:30 PM  
**Rainier Board Meeting**

SEPTEMBER 17, MONDAY — 7:00 PM  
**Rainier Program: Birding by Kayak**  
 See page 1 for details

SEPTEMBER 22, SATURDAY  
**Friends of the Hylebos Wetlands  
 Ruby Dance**  
 See page 6 for details

SEPTEMBER 22, SATURDAY  
**RAS Field Trip: Kent Ponds and  
 Boeing Ponds**  
 See page 4 for details

SEPTEMBER 29, SATURDAY  
**RAS Field Trip: Bottle Beach to  
 Tokeland**  
 See page 4 for details

THURSDAYS 8:15 AM TO 12:30 PM  
**Weekly Bird Walks at Nisqually**  
 See page 4 for details

<http://www.rainieraudubon.org/>

**Federal Way United Methodist Church**  
**29645 - 51st Ave. So.**  
**Auburn, 98001**

**DIRECTIONS:**

**COMING FROM THE WEST:** Take 320th St. heading east, past SeaTac Mall (now called The Commons). Cross I-5 and keep going east down towards Peasley Canyon Rd. At the first light after Military Rd. (321st St.), turn left. Stay on 321st St. as it winds up and around and becomes 51st Ave. So. The church will be on your left at 296th.

**COMING FROM THE EAST:** Take Peasley Canyon Rd. going west towards Federal Way. At the light at 321st St, take a right. Stay on 321st St. as it winds up and around and becomes 51st Ave. So. The church will be on your left at 296th.

# Volunteer Opportunities with Hylebos

RSVP to Hillary Kleeb at (253) 350-4765 or [streamteam@hylebos.org](mailto:streamteam@hylebos.org) if you would like to participate in any of the following volunteer opportunities:

SEPTEMBER 19, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM  
**SALMON WATCHER TRAINING, PART I**  
 Help the Friends of the Hylebos look for salmon on Hylebos Creek. Come find out more about salmon and the salmon watcher program at the Friends of the Hylebos offices, 33305 - 1st Way So, Federal Way.

SEPTEMBER 29, 10:00 AM – NOON  
**SALMON WATCHER TRAINING, PART II**  
 This part of the training will be a field trip to a hatchery to practice identifying salmon; volunteers have an opportunity to ask questions in the field. Required, unless you've been a salmon watcher in the past.

OCTOBER 6, 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM  
**WEST MILTON INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL**  
 Join the Friends of they Hylebos as we get started removing blackberry and morning glory at the West Milton Nature Preserve.

OCTOBER 20, 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM  
**WEST MILTON INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL**  
 We will be working on a different section of blackberries at West Milton. Between the two sections, we will be removing approximately 100,000 square feet of invasives.

NOVEMBER 10, 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM  
**WEST HYLEBOS WETLANDS PARK TREE PLANTING**  
 Last year we removed 25,000 square feet of blackberry. As a follow-up, we will be planting and mulching native trees and shrubs.

**RAINIER AUDUBON  
 UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

ALWAYS ON THE THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
 AT 7:00 PM  
 FEDERAL WAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
 (SEE DIRECTIONS AT LEFT)

**SEPTEMBER 17**—Birding by Kayak with Gary Luhm

**OCTOBER 15**—Juan Fernandez Islands (off the coast of Chile) by Peter Hodum

**NOVEMBER 19**—Rob Sandelin (Either The Secret Life of Mammals or The Magic of the Olympic Coast)

**DECEMBER 17**—Open

**JANUARY 21**—People for Puget Sound with Amy Hale

**FEBRUARY 18**—Owls and Forests with Nina Carter and Heath Packard

**MARCH 17**—Bird Conservation in Indonesia by Marcy Summers and Ellen Kritzman

**APRIL 21**—Open

**MAY 19**—Open

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# Events & Activities

## Please Join Us at the Fall ACOW Conference (Audubon Council of WA)

THEME OF CONFERENCE: RESTORE AND PROTECT

The Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society (OPAS) has selected "Restoration and Protection of Washington's Natural Areas" as the theme for the upcoming Audubon Council of Washington's (ACOW) semi-annual conference. This three-day event will be held at the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Center in Blyn on October 19, 20, and 21.

During the conference, participants will have the chance to visit one of three special places to see outstanding examples: the restored Jimmycomelately Estuary; the Dungeness River engineered logjam installation; and the future Elwha River double-dam removal project.

Each Audubon chapter has been asked to bring a portable display showcasing an important conservation project in their region. Sometimes we become so isolated or busy within our own region that we forget that all areas are connected (bird migratory routes, for example) and we frequently need to work together when protecting ecosystems.

ACOW's feature speaker, William D. Ruckelshaus, is working to create a partnership of many entities to accomplish a huge goal for our state: Cleaning up Puget Sound. Ruckelshaus, appointed by Governor Gregoire as chairman of the Puget Sound Partnership's Leadership Council, will speak at the conference's Saturday night salmon BBQ banquet.

Please visit [www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org](http://www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org) for more conference information.

## Ridgefield BirdFest 2007

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,  
OCTOBER 13-14, 2007

Join the Friends of Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) as we celebrate the arrival of fall and the wildlife that make the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge their winter home. BirdFest & Bluegrass is a unique opportunity to enjoy not only the sights and sounds of fall migration, but also a festive celebration of music, childrens' activities, food, and fun in the Ridgefield community. Some of the highlights of BirdFest will include:



BLUEGRASS & OLD-TIME  
MUSIC

SANDHILL CRANE TOURS

KAYAK TOURS

GUIDED  
NATURE AND BIRD  
WALKS

RAPTOR SHOW

STORYTELLING

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES



FEATURED ARTISTS AND  
PHOTOGRAPHERS

BIRDERS' MARKETPLACE  
AND FOOD VENDORS



For more information on this year's BirdFest, visit the Friends' website at [http://www.ridgefield-friends.org/bf\\_2007.html](http://www.ridgefield-friends.org/bf_2007.html).

## More Events on Page 6!

### Bird Bit

A PURPLE MARTIN'S DIET CONSISTS OF 100% INSECTS.

A WILSON'S WARBLER'S DIET CONSISTS OF 99% INSECTS (AND 1% BERRIES).

## A Flicker By Many Other Names

By Carol Stoner

Do you have a Lettuce bird or a Harrywicket on your life list? I do — and I bet you do, too. This is how I found these remarkable birds.

Just before the really hot weather arrived, I received a copy of Richard M. Pough's 1946 classic, *Audubon Land Bird Guide: Birds of Eastern and Central North America from Southern Texas to Central Greenland*. This book turned out to be a read-out-loud, laugh-out-loud treasure. The very thorough Mr. Pough kindly included wonderful, regionally common names to help his readers identify their birds. Often these names reflect the birding world's observations of a species' habits or preferences. For instance, the Nashville Warbler is listed as a Birch Warbler, while the Cedar waxwing is also the Cherry Bird. The name All-Blue Bird (Mountain Bluebird) contrasts nicely with the Blue Redbreast (Eastern Bluebird). The Wood Thrush was once called the Bell Bird, while the Hermit Thrush was a Swamp Robin. Both species, however, earned the common name of Swamp Angel.

Bandit Warbler refers to the Common Yellowthroat, and Tail-tipper is a helpful label for a Palm Warbler. The Wilson's Warbler had several common names, among them Black Cap, Pileolated Warbler, and Fly-catching Warbler. The Eastern Phoebe was known as a Beambird for its habit of nesting in buildings, and the Say's Phoebe was called a Rusty Bird.

Vireos were known as Greenlets, a word I particularly like. Orioles had names like Basket Bird or Hammock Bird, which describe this species' nest-building skills. Skunk Blackbird and Meadow Wink were regional names for Bobolinks, along with Robert o'Lincoln, which I find one of the punniest.

Owls, woodpeckers, wrens, and swallows  
*cont'd on page 6*

THE BARRED OWL MIGHT BE LISTED AS THE RAIN, CRAZY, OLD-FOLKS OR CHUCKLE-HEAD OWL, DEPENDING ON WHERE YOU WERE BIRDING.

# Field Trips

By Carol Schulz

## *Weekly Bird Walks at Nisqually*

**Thursdays 8:15 AM to 12:30 PM**

**Leader: Phil Kelley**

Join Phil on his weekly bird walk as he counts the birds at Nisqually NWR. On the first Thursday of the month, the group walks fairly quickly around the full loop, a distance of over five miles. Other weeks, the trip is shorter, walking out to McAllister Creek, back to the visitor center, then out to the Twin Barns and the Ring Dike Trail, totaling about four miles.

**BRING:** Good walking shoes or boots, raingear, water, snacks, and \$3 entry fee unless you have a pass. Scopes are welcome.

**MEET:** At the Visitor's Center.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take I-5 south from Tacoma and exit to Nisqually NWR at exit 114. Take a right at the light.

**SIGN-UP:** Call or email Phil Kelley to confirm details. (360) 459-1499, scrub-jay323@aol.com.

## *Bottle Beach to Tokeland*

**Saturday, September 29  
7:00 AM to Late Afternoon/Early Evening**

**Leader: Carol Schulz**

Join Carol on a coastal trip to areas in Grays Harbor and farther south. We'll visit Bottle Beach and Tokeland. Other possible spots for birding include Brady Loop, Westport, and Midway Beach. If any good bird sightings are reported between now and then, we'll try to see them also!

**BRING:** Lunch and snacks, and be prepared for fall weather. Scopes are very welcome.

We'll be back late afternoon or early evening.

**MEET:** McDonalds in Fife. Take I-5 south to exit 137. Turn right, and get into the left lane. Turn left (go toward Tacoma) and go two blocks on Hwy. 99. Turn left at the light and drive about 1/2 block to McDonald's.

**SIGN-UP:** Call or e-mail Carol Schulz, linusq@att.net, (206) 824-7618. Email is preferred.

## *Kent Ponds & Boeing Ponds*

**Saturday, September 22**

**8:00 AM to Mid-Afternoon**

**Leader: Carol Schulz**

Take a birdwalk in the Kent Valley, where the birds gather in the early fall. We will go inside the gate at Kent Ponds to an area normally closed to the public. The ponds should have migrating waterfowl, warblers, hawks, and more. We will also view birds and wildlife from two of the Green River Natural Resources Area (Kent Ponds) viewing towers. We will then travel north about one mile to Boeing Ponds. A short walk around the ponds should reveal ducks, herons, and other birds. We hope for a large list of birds at this time of year in the Kent Valley. We will walk on level trails up to 1-1/2 miles total. Bring walking shoes or boots, warm clothes, water, and a lunch. Scopes are welcome.

**MEET:** At Wendy's Restaurant at the corner of So. 212th St, and 64th Ave. So. in north Kent at 8:00 AM. (Restaurant now opens for breakfast.)

**DIRECTIONS:** From I-5, take exit 152, Orillia Road. Turn east to go down into the Kent Valley. In the valley Orillia becomes So. 212th St. Continue east on 212th about one mile. Wendy's is on the right at the corner of 64th Ave. So. From I-167, take the So. 212th St. exit north of Kent, and turn west. Travel west across the valley on So. 212th about 1.5 miles. Turn left on 64th Ave. So, and take a right to double back into the Wendy's parking lot on the corner.

**SIGN-UP:** Call or email Carol Schulz, linusq@att.net, (206) 824-7618. Email is preferred.

Here's a chance to try your luck at matching some of our common birds with their nicknames:

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Song Sparrow      | a. Lazy Bird       |
| 2. Junco             | b. Chewink         |
| 3. Spotted Towhee    | c. Dead Limb Bird  |
| 4. Common Nighthawk  | d. White Bill      |
| 5. Belted Kingfisher | e. Chatterer       |
| 6. Eastern Pewee     | f. Burnt Land Bird |
| 7. Bohemian Waxwing  | g. Devil-down-bird |
| 8. Nuthatch          | h. Hedge Sparrow   |

(answers upside down below)

Answers to the match: 1h, 2d, 3b, 4f, 5a, 6c, 7e, 8g

## **A Flicker...** *cont'd from page 3*

have caught the attention of many people and earned a variety of common names. Skunk Owl, Cat Owl, Hoot Owl, and Eagle Owl all refer to the Great Horned Owl. The Short-eared Owl was called the Flat-face Owl. The Screech Owl was known as the Death Bird or Shivering Owl, among others, while the Burrowing Owl was the Billy or Dog Owl. The Barn Owl is Monkey-faced and the Ferruginous Pygmy Owl was once called the Four-eyed Owl. The Barred Owl might be listed as the Rain, Crazy, Old-folks or Chuckle-head Owl, depending on where you were birding.

And then there are the woodpeckers. Hairys and Downys are labeled as Big Guinea and Little Guinea Woodpeckers. Tree Girdler and Squealer are terms for the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. The Pileated Woodpecker had nine common names scattered through the index, among them Cock-of-the-Woods, Good-god, and Woodchuck.

A Hawk-driver is a Purple Martin, while a Cliff Swallow is a Mud Martin, and a Northern Rough-wing is a Gully or Sand Martin.

Wrens were often given geographic names. The Bewick's Wren, for instance, was named for Texas, Catalina, and even Seattle, while the Winter Wren had 13 listings referring to locations, size, and physical characteristics. Lilliputian Wren is a name too big for such a tiny bird, but Bob-tailed Wren suits it well.

I have no idea how the Evening Grosbeak earned the name English Parrot, but Topsy-turvy Bird is perfect for the White-breasted Nuthatch.

The Lettuce bird is our state bird, the American goldfinch, and Harrywicket is one of the 13 names for Northern Flicker. (The other 12 are Wickup, Red-hammer, Wake Up, White Rump, Ant Woodpecker, Ground Woodpecker, Boreal Flicker, Clape, Cotton-backed Yellowhammer, Gaffer Woodpecker, High Hole, and Pigeon Woodpecker.)

Although I'll never take Richard Pough's book along on a birding trip, it will always have a place on my bookshelf as a link to people before my time who watched, named, thought, and cared about birds.

☞ See box at left for a fun test of your bird name knowledge!

# Seen & Heard

By Charlie Wright



Hello, All. I hope you have enjoyed the summer, a very pleasant one. Fall migration for many birds began in late July, but the peak of bird movement will be around the time you receive this newsletter. Keep on birding and please report what you find!

A **Brant** at the 212th St. ponds 8/8 was very unexpected (GM). A family of **Common Mergansers** was on the Green River near Kent Ponds 8/5 (CS). Three **Green-winged Teal** were at Kent Ponds 6/17 (CW/m.obs), and two **Ring-necked Ducks** were there 7/22 (m.obs). A **Northern Bobwhite**, likely a recent escapee, was seen in Maple Valley 7/23 (JC). An adult **Red-shouldered Hawk**, very likely the one seen in immature plumage last fall and over the winter, appeared at Kent Ponds 7/14 (KA) and 7/22 (RO/m.obs). **Northern Harriers** successfully nested at Kent Ponds this summer, with three juveniles fledging (RO/m.obs). This



YELLOW-BREADED CHAT ©STEVE PIKE

occurrence is the first confirmed breeding in the Kent Valley in 10 years. A **Lesser Yellowlegs** was at the 212th St. pond in Kent 8/5 (CS). Three **Pectoral Sandpipers** were at Boeing Ponds 8/8 (GM). An adult **Semipalmated Sandpiper** was at the 212th St. pond 6/30 (CW), and a juvenile was there 8/2 (GH) and 8/5 (CS). Over 150 **Black Swifts** were tallied at Kent Ponds 6/17 under cloudy skies (CW/m.obs). A rare **Least Flycatcher** was singing heartily near the town park in South Prairie 6/3 and 6/4 (CW). One of Kent Pond's **Yellow-breasted Chats** was seen and heard from the usual spot on 7/22 (RO/m.obs). **Lazuli Buntings** were last reported at Kent Ponds 7/15 (CS) and Foothills Trail 8/17 (CW).

OBSERVERS: KA-KATHY ANDRICH; TB-THAIS BOCK; JC-JEFF COHEN; GM-GUY MCWETHY; RO-ROGER ORNESS; CS-CAROL SCHULZ; CW-CHARLIE WRIGHT; TWTRS-TWEETERS, M.OBS-MANY OBSERVERS.



## Bug of the Month: Moth



There are 10 times as many moth species as butterfly species in the Pacific Northwest. This is good news for our migrating and birding birds, for whom all these moths are a vital food source. Moth caterpillars are eaten by the leaf gleaners (birds such as wood warblers, chickadees, kinglets, vireos, and tanagers). In fact, research suggests that Black-capped Chickadees notice damaged leaves and inspect them closely, to increase their chances of finding caterpillars. Many migrating birds time their northbound trip to match the unfurling leaves and hatching of moth caterpillars. Although many moths are active at night, they often rest during the day on the bark of trees, so adult moths become an important food for creepers, nuthatches, Yellow-rumped Warblers, and other bark gleaners. If you want to encourage moths and the birds that use them, don't use Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*). Although it's promoted as a safe alternative pesticide, it is lethal to caterpillars. Planting or preserving alders is another positive step; our common alder species is a preferred food plant for more than 50 species of moths.

## Birding Locations Mentioned in Seen & Heard

**Boeing Ponds (Kent):** From I-5, take exit 152 onto Orillia Rd. Go east on Orillia; Orillia will become So. 212th St. Turn left at the light at So. 59th Pl. and go half a mile. Just past the Boeing Kent Space Center, you will see the first of the ponds. Park anywhere you can and view the ponds. From there, continue on 59th about two blocks to a blocked-off road on the right. Park there and view birds in the water below. Walk to the other ponds on 62nd Ave So. (2005 Thomas Guide: King 685, F-5)

**Kent Ponds (Green River Natural Resource Area):** This area is bounded generally by the Green River to the west, So. 212th St. to the north, 64th Ave. to the east, and the Puget Power pedestrian/bike trail to the south. Two public gates allow pedestrian access to the site along Russell Road, and another may be accessed by foot or bicycle, along the south bike path. (2005 Thomas Guide: King 685, F-5)

**204th St:** Small road between Orillia and Frager Roads, just north of 212th.

**McMillin, Orting, and Buckley trailheads:** Take Hwy. 410 east to the Orting/Sumner exit (Route 162). Turn right towards Orting. The McMillin trailhead will be on the right just after the bridge. The Orting trailhead is two miles further on the right, located in Orting City Park. For the Buckley trailhead: Take Hwy. 410 to the Park Avenue exit and turn right (east). Turn at the first left onto North River Ave. Go straight to the National Guard parking.

**Des Moines Beach Park:** 22030 Cliff Avenue South in Des Moines

**Nolte State Park:** Located north of the town of Enumclaw, Wash., at the western edge of the Cascade Mountains. From east of Enumclaw: On SR 410, turn north on 284th Ave., S.E., (look for sign) and continue approximately seven miles to park entrance.

**Flaming Geyser State Park:** From SR 18: Take the Auburn-Black Diamond Rd. exit. Travel east to Green Valley Rd. Turn right (southeast). Continue on Green Valley Rd. about nine miles to park entrance.

**Smith Bros. Dairy Farms** in Kent valley: 27441 - 68th Avenue So., Kent. South Prairie (town). Take Hwy 410 to Bonney Lake and take a right on South Prairie Rd. After four miles, turn right onto Pioneer Way (Hwy. 162) into Puyallup. Just across the bridge is South Prairie.

**Foothills Trail:** Follow directions to South Prairie (above). Trailhead for the Foothills Trail is in South Prairie just after Rainier Avenue.

## Going Birding?

Report your sightings to Charlie at (253) 862-0520 or email [c.wright7@comcast.net](mailto:c.wright7@comcast.net).



# The Quizzical Owl

by *Thais Bock*

1. What North American *buteo* is circumpolar in its distribution?
2. Found in the fields of eastern Washington during the summer, this bird during Fall migration is particularly fond of rice fields.
3. The outer feathers on adult birds have a stiff central shaft called a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What family of shorebirds prefers to swim rather than wade?
5. A young pigeon or dove is called a \_\_\_\_\_.

ANSWERS ARE UPSIDE DOWN BELOW

## West Hylebos Wetlands Boardwalk Replacement Underway

The City of Federal Way has begun a major construction project to replace the boardwalk at the popular West Hylebos Wetlands Park. The park will be closed until approximately mid-November, while construction is being completed.

“While we’re sad that the park has to be closed during the summer season, it’s unavoidable,” said Parks Director Donna Hanson. “Construction has to be done in the dry months to minimize impacts to the sensitive wetlands environment. However, the city is committed to seeing the park re-open as soon as possible.”

Chris Carrel, Executive Director of the Friends of the Hylebos Wetlands, said, “The original boardwalk has deteriorated steadily over the past few years. Replacing the boardwalk now is necessary, so that park visitors can continue to visit and enjoy the West Hylebos Wetlands in the future.”

Carrel noted that the structure experienced severe damage during last year’s winter storms. The foundation, which stands in water most of the year, has also deteriorated and become unsafe. The City of Federal Way is replacing the boardwalk with a new one that will have a much longer life expectancy. The Parks Department and the Friends are asking people to observe the closure and not enter the construction area, which is a potentially unsafe setting for visitors.

## More Events & Activities

### Ruby Dance

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2007

WEYERHAEUSER KING COUNTY AQUATIC CENTER  
DINNER, PRESENTATION, AWARDS, AND SILENT AUCTION

\$60 PER PERSON, REGISTER IN ADVANCE.

Master of Ceremonies:  
Keith Eldridge, KOMO TV

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Elliott Norse, President,  
Marine Conservation Biology Institute

Delicious food, great wine, and engaging company, all in the support of conservation of Hylebos Creek can only mean one thing: Ruby Dance! This year’s event will gather more than 200 community and conservation activists, municipal, civic and business leaders, and tribal and elected officials. And hopefully, YOU! Keith Eldridge of KOMO TV will guide our evening, which will kick off with a silent auction and a sparkling appetizer. Guests will also be in for a rare opportunity to hear internationally-renowned conservation biologist, Dr. Elliot Norse of the Marine Conservation Biology Institute, as our keynote speaker.

Volunteers will be needed to help with a variety of projects such as mailings, decor, and set-up. For

### Introduction to Birding Class

OCTOBER 16, OCTOBER 23, OCTOBER 30  
6:30 PM TO 9:00 PM.

This fall, Rainier Audubon will be offering an Introduction to Birding class. This enjoyable class will consist of three lectures, and two fun and educational field trips. Classes will be held at the Federal Way United Methodist Church (see address and directions on page 2) on Tuesday evenings: October 16, October 23, and October 30, from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Field trips will be on Saturdays: October 20 and October 27, with an optional third field trip. Your teachers will be Master Birder Carol Schulz and Assistant Instructor Debra Russell. We will use the *National Geographic Field Guide to Birds of North America* (3rd, 4th, or 5th edition) as the class text. Please bring this guide to the class. Cost will be \$25 for Rainier members and \$40 for non-members. For more information or to reserve a spot in the class, please call or email Carol Schulz at (206) 824-7618 or [linusq@att.net](mailto:linusq@att.net)

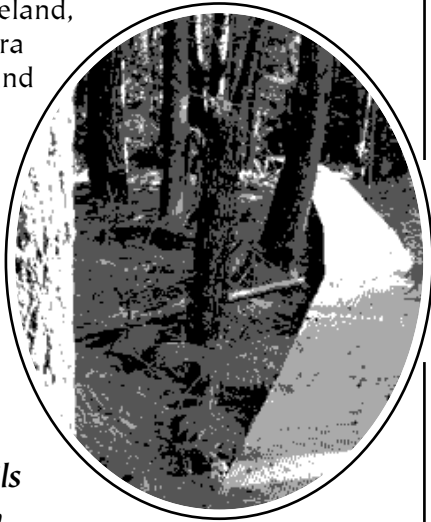
more information on Ruby Dance 2007, contact Sheila Jackson, Development and Outreach Coordinator at (253) 874.2005 or email [sheila@hylebos.org](mailto:sheila@hylebos.org).

# News From Shadow Lake Bog

By Bonnie Kallman

The 11th Annual Frog Frolic at Shadow Lake Bog this summer was a tremendous success! Over 250 people attended. There were eight information tables, bluegrass music by "Ryegrass," lots of food, bog tours, and an exciting raffle and silent auction. Rainier was again a participant this year, with an information table managed by Carol Schulz. Rainier Audubon's presence always adds great information and a terrific visual display. Member Adele Freeland took a turn at the booth while Carol, a Master Birder, walked the boardwalk and checked out the bird life in the bog. Rainier members Dale Meland, Merlin Wiese, and Barbara Petersen were also on hand to enjoy and participate. Their knowledge and charm were great assets to the Frolic!

The bog looks forward to another fun event next year when the Frog Frolic will be on Sunday, August 10, 2008.



## Shadow Lake Bog Unveils New Education Program

By the start of the 2007-2008 school year, teachers may sign up for any one of three field trips at the bog via links from the SHADOW website. The trips are 1) Bog Form and Function, 2) Water and Water Quality, and 3) Plants and Animals of the Bog. Each adventure has specific built-in connections to the state's Essential Academic Learning Requirements, as well as the state Environmental Education Guidelines.

The field trips are geared to 3rd through 12th grades, with modifications available for younger visitors. Adult or college students can also utilize the field trips effectively by adding higher level critical thinking aspects. Flyers for educators will be distributed initially to the school districts of Tahoma, Renton, and Kent. However, any educator, including homeschoolers, Garden Club, scout troops, etc. may access the website at [www.shadowhabitat.org](http://www.shadowhabitat.org) and take a look at the education page. We are in the process of upgrading the entire website, so be sure to check it out! Questions can be directed to our Operations Manager, Nate Schulfer at (425) 432-4914. Come and see us at the bog!

## Rainier Audubon Society

*Rainier Audubon Society is the Washington State South King County Chapter of the National Audubon Society. Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, and to protect birds and other wildlife for the benefit of humanity and biological diversity in South King County and the world we live in.*

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