# The Heron Herald



Rainier Audubon Society

January 2017

### Rainier Audubon Membership Meeting 7:00 PM January 16, 2016

"The Natural World Always Has a Story to Share - Celebrating What Is Right with The World!"

#### Alan Bauer

Celebrate what's right with the world! Sometimes we just need to slow down or look more closely, but there is always something fascinating to appreciate right around us. Come spend an evening with professional photographer Alan L. Bauer as he shares an image intensive presentation of his many personal celebrations. From hiking to birding to just standing still looking at what's nearby, everywhere there is something worth celebrating making each day a better experience!

Alan L. Bauer is a professional photographer specializing in the natural and local history of the Pacific Northwest and coverage of local history. He is a lifelong resident of the Pacific Northwest His work has been published in Backpacker, Odyssey, Northwest Runner, CityDog, Northwest Outdoors, Northwest

Magazine, Oregon Coast, and Northwest Travel magazines to name a few. Alan is perhaps best known in the region for his photography and is co-author with the publisher of The Mountaineers Books as part of the new "Day Hiking" guidebook series.

Join us at 6:30 for conversation and refreshments.





### **RAS Mission Statement**

To conserve and restore natural ecosystems and protect birds and other wildlife for the benefit of humanity and biological diversity in South King County and the world we live in.

Rainier Audubon programs are held at 7:00 PM at the Federal Way United Methodist Church 29645 - 51st Ave. So. 98001 (in unincorporated Auburn)

#### New Rainier Audubon Google Group / email list

We are combining the old Rainier Leaders email list with the ras-activities list into a new RainierAudubon google group.

The [ras-activities] group has been renamed to [RainierAudubon]. So if you were previously a member of this list, then you are still a member of the renamed group. The only difference being that when you send an email to this group, the address is RainierAudubon@googlegroups.com

I have sent out invitations to join this group to numerous people. If you get an invitation, you can click on it to join the group. You must have a Google account.

If you did not get an invitation, you may request to join the group by going to groups.google.com and searching for "Rainier Audubon". You can then request to join the group.

Alternatively, you can sign up on the RainierAudubon.org website.



| Rainier Audubon Society Directory |                        |              |              |                            |  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|--|
| Position                          | Name                   | Board Member | Phone        | email                      |  |
| President                         | Heather Gibson         | Yes          | 253-856-9812 | hedder swedder@yahoo.com   |  |
| Vice President                    | Jay Galvin             | Yes          | 253-939-3094 | gjgalvin@comcast.net       |  |
| Secretary                         | Open                   |              |              |                            |  |
| Treasurer                         | Laura Lavington        | Yes          | 253-941-7372 | laura.lavington@gmail.com  |  |
| Membership Chair                  | Pat Toth               | Yes          | 206-767-4944 | h2opat@msn.com             |  |
| Education Chair                   | Cindy Flanagan         | Yes          | 253-941-3633 | camcalcin@hotmail.com      |  |
| Program Chair                     | Dale Meland            | No           | 253-946-1637 | dmeland@hotmail.com        |  |
| Field Trip Chair                  | Barbara Petersen       | Yes          | 253 389 3204 | bpbatfan@aol.com           |  |
| Publicity Chair                   | Jay Galvin             | Yes          | 253-939-3094 | gjgalvin@comcast.net       |  |
| Backyard Habitat Chair            | Marie West-Johnson     | Yes          | 206-817-8754 | crgrie123@yahoo.com        |  |
| Conservation Chair                | Dan Streiffert         | No           | 253-796-2203 | dan_streiffert@hotmail.com |  |
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| Member at Large                   | Stephen Feldman        | Yes          | 360-802-5211 | stephanfeldman@gmail.com   |  |
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| Mailing                           | Debra Russell          | No           | 425 829 4008 | debrarussell@comcast.net   |  |
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|                                   |                        |              |              |                            |  |
|                                   |                        |              |              |                            |  |

### Education Matters by Cindy Flanagan

### Birds Don't Disappoint for Historic 1st CBC for Kids

On what was probably one of the coldest days of the year (38 degrees Fahrenheit), the birds and Rainier Audubon's Youth Naturalists ventured out to brave the elements. On Wednesday, December 14th, 2016 from 12pm-2:30Pm, 19 birders broke into 3 teams to cover areas in Redondo, the Kent-Auburn Valley and Federal Way. The sharp eyes of our youth birders spotted 40 different bird species. Highlights included Eurasian Wigeon, Redhead Duck, Wilson's Snipe, Green Heron, Merlin, a Charm of



American Goldfinch, 7 hummingbirds on one feeder and Yellow-rumped Warplers.

Thank you to leaders Barbara Petersen, Marie West-Johnson, Dan Streiffert, and Calen Randall. Also thank you to Carley Randall and Dorothy Flanagan for organizing the hot chocolate and snacks for the tally gathering.



Kent-Auburn Valley

Canada Goose 45
Gadwall 4
Eurasian Wigeon 1
American Wigeon 190
Mallard 140
Northern Shoveller 3
Northern Pintail 6

Hooded Merganser 10 Pied-billed Grebe 1 Double-crested Cormorant 2 Green Heron 1 Red-tailed Hawk 2 Killdeer 4 Wilson's Snipe 1 Glaucaus-winged Gull 30 California Scrub Jay 1 American Crow 420 Black-capped Chickadee 6 Bewick's Wren 1 American Robin 9 European Starling 120 Dark-eyed Junco 1 Song Sparrow 11

Ring-necked Duck 5

Bufflehead 17

Redondo Board walk and Neighborhood

Rock Pigeon 92
Yellow-rumped Warbler 5
Anna's Hummingbird 10
American Goldfinch 30
American Crow 25
Common Loon 2
Black-capped Chickadee 3

Horned Grebe 7
American Robin 2
Double-Crested Cormorant 1
Common Goldeneye 13
Surf Scoter 1
Glaucous-winged Gull 22
WestXGIC-Winged Gull 1

North Lake and Weyerhaeuser

Campus

Canada Goose 25 Eurasian Wigeon 1 American Wigeon 150

Mallard 6 Redhead 24

Ring-necked Duck 20 Lesser Scaup 2

Bufflehead 12

Hooded Merganser 11 Ruddy Duck 8

Pied-billed Grebe 6
Red-tailed Hawk 1

Merlin 1
American Coot 1
Downy Woodpecker 1
Spotted Towhee 1
Glaucous-winged Gull 1



trio of birders stood upon the cemetery ridge, overlooking the farm fields submerged in water from the last few weeks of rainfall. The birders, clutching gloved hands to binoculars, peered down at the flooded fields, determinedly counting the hundreds upon hundreds of shoveler, teal, wigeon, and countless other waterfowl species conglomerated in the water. The youngest one, a boy, queried through the cold, "do we always see this many ducks on the count?" The middle one, a young man in his twenties responded, "Not usually; we picked the perfect day for waterfowl." The third member of the party, the boy's mother laughed and said, "Well this Christmas Bird Count has certainly been a 'Ducky Day'!"

That afternoon was the first day that my Mom and I had participated in the Christmas Bird Count. I remember, at ten years old, first meeting Charlie Wright, the young man and our area leader that morning. For a first time CBC participant, it was an amazing experience birding and learning from Charlie. It's been eight years since I ventured out on my first Christmas Bird Count and like the birds and area in the count circle. lots has changed for me. I sometimes wonder what that ten year old Calen would say if someone told him that in a decade, not only would he be an area leader for the CBC, but also the count compiler who sends all the data to National Audubon and Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Every time I go out on the CBC, or I compile the data for our counts I relive that December day. That said, my first CBC memory

### Seen & Heard by Calen Randall

became even more important to me this December.

On December 14th, my Mom and I organized the first ever Rainier Audubon Christmas Bird Count for Kids. Thirteen eager birders, three moms, and five leaders all broke up into three teams and bustled out to bird for a couple hours in locations around the count circle. Our team was composed of leaders Dan Streiffert and myself, and a family of four, Odyn, nine, our master bird species tallier. Ulli, seven, our binocularwielding bird counter, and their Mom, Amy, and sister Freya, four, who kept their eyes and ears peeled so no bird went uncounted. Though we were disappointingly blanked of Trumpeter Swans at Carpinito's Pumpkin patch, the rest of the waterfowl species did not disappoint. I was glad that, like my mom and I on our first CBC the family of four got to share a "Ducky Day" for their first CBC for Kids. It was also an amazing opportunity to help Odyn, Ulli, and Freya experience and learn about the birds they were seeing on the count--just as Charlie had done for

the count--just as Charlie had done for me nearly a decade ago.

My favorite moment of the day, however, did not involve waterfowl. As we walked around the path at the Fishing Hole on Frager Road, I glimpsed a flash of a dark wing as a bird flew behind a tree at the edge of the pond.

Before I could
even reach for
my binoculars,
Ulli was calling out, "that looked
like a heron!" and Odyn was
furiously tallying one heron on his
paper. Sure enough, as we rounded
the corner, there on the bank sat a
heron. Not just any Great-Blue, but
our Green Heron. For such a
quick movement, it was
quite an extraordinary
spotting by young
Ulli.

Ulli's eagle

eyes and Odyn's expertise for bird data recording were not only inspiring for the future of our Youth Naturalists program, but also an excellent reminder what kids can provide when they are engaged with nature with their parents, mentors, and other kids. Often times, we can get sucked into a rut of always expecting the youngest generation to be out of tune with nature. Yet I am constantly surprised by what birds the young birders spy in the field, research at home, or are interested in learning about. These are not the only kids out there that have an interest in birds too. My greatest hope for these young naturalists is that in eight years, they will be immersed in the birding world as well and will, in turn, help the next wave of birders learn about our region's birds. Perhaps some of the group will become fantastic birders and lead their own CBC areas. Maybe in a decade one will have taken over writing The Seen and Heard, like I took over writing it from Charlie. While there is still a plethora of questions to be answered about the future for these new birders, one point remains certain, the more we tap into the pool of youth, the more opportunities there will be for Rainier Audubon to be a front-runner in getting families engaged with birds and nature.

Bio: Calen is a 17 year old birder entering his sixth year writing the Seen and Heard. Currently attending Highline College, Calen enjoys birding in the Green River Valley and around Ithaca, New York.

### Recent Bird Sightings:

On December 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> North Lake was visited by eight **Trumpeter Swans**. Based on the photos, it appears that two of the swans were immature.

Jane (Sorry, Jane, I don't have your last name) spotted a rare visitor to her yard, a **Varied Thrush** in mid-December.

In late November, Carol Schulz continued the trend of great sea bird sightings in *The Seen and Heard* when she viewed an **Ancient Murrelet** off the pier at the Des Moines Creek Marina. A couple months ago Jim Flynn also viewed Ancient Murrelet in Dumas Bay in Federal Way. Hopefully in the New Year the Murrelet reports keep coming!

### What to Look for in the Month of January:

While no new arrivals are expected this month, here are some birds to look for in January.

Kent Ponds is occasionally visited in the winter months by a Redshouldered Hawk. One hawk was sighted in December at its usual perch in Kent Ponds.

The white rump of a Northern Harrier is a common sight down in the fields of the Kent and Auburn Valley in January. Harriers have also been glimpsed along Snoqualmie River, by Lake Sammamish, and Nisqually Delta this winter.

Along the Puget Sound, Common Loon can be viewed (especially with the help of a scope) at locations like Dash Point, Redondo, or Des Moines Marina.



#### eBird Quiz

Quiz: Who recorded the first ever Eurasian Wigeon at Lake Fenwick on eBird?

**Hint:** The individuals that spotted the Eurasian Wigeon belong to a very unique group of birders.

Answer: on page 7

### How to Explore eBird Info:

- Search eBird.org in your search engine.
- 2. Select Explore Data at the top of the page
- 3. Click on Explore Hotspots
- 4. In the hotspot search engine, enter Lake Fenwick
- Select View Details. A list of birds last seen will pop up.
   Change the order to First Seen.
- At or towards the top should be Eurasian Wigeon. Under the column "By" you can find who spotted them.

### Field Trips - Barbara Petersen



### Weekly Birdwalks at Nisqually

Wednesdays 8 am to 11 am Leader: Phil Kelley

Join Phil Kelley on his weekly bird walks as he counts the birds at Nisqually NWR. The group walks over to an area near the visitor's center to view the entry road estuary, and then takes the boardwalk/trail loop out to the Twin Barns, and the Nisqually overlook area. From there, the group walks the dike, and back to the Riparian Forest.

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

**Meet**: At the Visitor's Center Pond Overlook.

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

Sign-up is not necessary. Call or email Phil Kelley if you have questions. Phil Kelley, Lacey, (360) 459 1499, scrubjay323@aol.com

## Fort Townsend (Quest for the Ancient Murrelet)

Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> (NEW DATE!) 6:30 AM - 8 PM

Leader Jim Flynn

The northern reaches of Puget Sound are where birders head in search of the uncommon Ancient Murrelet during late fall and early winter. These small, sociable and attractive alcids are regularly found here between late November and mid-January and can be fairly reliably found in places like Point No Point (Kitsap County) and Fort Flagler and Fort Worden near Port Townsend. Any other time of year they are nearly impossible to find, as they are out at sea or on the breeding grounds in B.C. and Alaska. This trip should be great for many other waterbirds, possible Oystercatchers and land birds. The scenery is always a plus in this area as

We will meet at the Star Lake Park and Ride at S. 272nd St and 26th Ave S., just west of I-5 (caution, there are other nearby park and rides with similar names and addresses. Please call or e-mail if you are unsure about this location)

Bring food and drinks, gas money as well as lots of layers for possibly cold, wet weather. A scope is also a great help in searching for murrelets.

Call Jim Flynn at 206-399-6418 to sign up, or email merlinmania@comcast.net

### Soos Creek Owl Prowls

Saturday Night, Feb 11, 2017 10:30 PM - 1:30 AM or Sat. Night, Mar 11, 2016; 10:00 PM to 1:30 AM

Leaders: Joe and Liz Miles

Join Friends of Soos Creek Park volunteers Joe and Liz Miles for this late night program and walk exploring the world of owls. We'll start indoors for the first hour learning calls, ID, and info about our local owls, then venture outdoors to prowl for owls.

There is limited space for this program. Reservations are required. Best for adults and children over 13 years. Group size is limited to 15. The owls program is sponsored by Kent City Recreation Dept.

**Meet**: Meet at the Soos Creek Park Maintenance Shop. Soos Creek Park/Trail 24810 148th Avenue SE, Kent.

Directions: Take James Street east from Kent. To reach James St, exit I-167 at Willis, turn east to Central, and North to James. Travel east on James as it becomes SE 240th St. Travel about 4 miles, as 240th dips and turns downhill. Turn right (south) on 148th Ave near the bottom of the hill. The Soos Creek maintenance yard will be down the road about 1/4 mile on the left at a barn and chainlink-fenced parking lot.

**Sign-up**: Call Kent Commons, Kent City Parks and Recreation, <u>253-856-5000</u>. This trip FILLS EARLY. Please register in advance.

For further info: E-mail or call Joe Miles, (friendsofsooscreekpark@q.com), (253) 639-0123. Joe can answer your questions but cannot arrange the signups.



### Bird of the Month: Wild California Quail

Reprint Courtesy of Wild Birds Unlimited, Burien

- California Quail are handsome birds with a curious, forward-drooping head plume. Males have mainly gray-brown upperparts, their napes finely marked with black and white and dull brown crowns. Black on the face and throat is defined by white and separated from the crown by a white line above the eye. The breast is lilac-gray and the belly appears to be beautifully scaled due to dark feather margins. Their flanks are brown with pale streaks. Females are similar to the males but duller overall and lacking the striking head markings.
- California Quail are typically found in the foothills, coastal sagebrush, chaparral and high desert of California and the northwestern states.
- Normally they will be seen walking, running or scratching at the ground and leaf litter for seeds and other food.
   Occasionally, they will forage in trees. Generally, they forage in open areas but stay close to cover. Despite their short legs, California Quail can run amazingly fast. If startled by a predator they will burst into flight with rapid, whirring wingbeats.
- California Quail form flocks known as coveys in fall and winter. These are usually made of family groups and can number more than 75 individuals.
- California Quail roost in trees and feed mainly in the morning and evening, spending most of the day in shrubs that shade them from the sun and protect them from predators.
- Being seedeaters, their diet is typically 70% vegetarian.
   However, California Quail will also eat leaves, flowers,

- catkins, grain, poison oak berries, acorns, caterpillars, beetles, mites, millipedes and snails.
- The nest is usually a shallow depression lined with stems and grasses, often placed near vegetation or rocks for protection. The eggs are creamy white with variable brown markings.
- Mom will lay 12 16 eggs that will take 22-23 days to hatch.
  The chicks are covered in brownish down and can walk,
  follow their parents and peck at the ground immediately after
  hatching. Several broods may mix together and all the
  parents care for the young.
- · Other cool facts:
- California Quail digest vegetation with the help of protozoans in their intestines.
- Pairs of California Quail call antiphonally, meaning that the male and female alternate calls fitting them into a tightly orchestrated pattern.
- The head plume looks like a single feather but is actually a cluster of six overlapping feathers.
- The California Quail is California's state bird and has been introduced to many other parts of the world including Hawaii, Europe and New Zealand.
- The oldest known California Quail was 6 years 11 months old.





Answer:Rainier Audubon Youth Naturalists

### Save Weyerhaeuser Campus Update by Cindy Flanagan

#### Preferred Freezer Project Canned

Industrial Realty Group (IRG) announced a termination of its contract with Chill Build Seattle LLC. The contract included selling 19 acres of the former Weyerhaeuser Campus to build a 319,000 square foot fish processing plant. While many are happy to kiss the fish processing plant goodbye, IRG's present plan is to place a warehouse and distribution center on the same forested site which is a few hundred feet east of the iconic headquarters building. IRG has continued the State Environmental Policy Act (SE-PA) review for the site as it anticipates that the same historical, cultural, environmental and technical issues will need to be addressed. In the next few weeks IRG will choose a new user and project.

### City of Federal Way Explore Corporate Park Zoning Moratorium

Immediately following the announcement that the Preferred Freezer Services and Industrial Realty Group contract had fallen through, the Federal Way City Council held a special meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The objective of the special meeting was to pass a proposed six-month moratorium on development in Corporate Park-1 and Office Park-1 zones (the former Weyerhaeuser Campus is the only CP-1 zoned area in Federal Way). The Moratorium was voted down 4-2. Council members Mark Koppang, Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Martin Moore and Deputy Mayor Jean Burbidge voted against; Council Members Dini Du Clos and Susan Honda voted in favor; while Council Member Kelly Maloney recused herself citing conflict of interest. Concern is that IRG favors warehousing development, not office development in the CP-1 zone.

According to the *Puget Sound Business Journal* (December 14, 2016), when IRG bought the property in February, Mayor Farrell stated that the city does not want warehousing, "We envision more of an office park."

# Conservancy Efforts to Preserve North Lake Watershed, North Lake and the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden and Bonsai Garden on the former Weyerhaeuser Campus

Members of the Save Weyerhaeuser Campus group and Rainier Audubon are working together as a conservancy group to save important areas on the former Weyerhaeuser Campus. The group has identified the west side of North Lake (the North Lake watershed), the Rhododendron Species Botanical Gardens and the Pacific Bonsai Museum as key areas that must be preserved. As well, conservation plans would include retaining and extending trails on the campus for walking and biking.

Preserving the undeveloped riparian forest habitat of the North Lake watershed would continue to provide a diverse and healthy habitat for the 115 bird species and other wildlife that inhabit the area. Most critical is protection of North Lake and its watershed, as it is at the headwaters of the East Hylebos, and provides critical water flows and good water quality to the salmon bearing Hylebos waters downstream through Milton, Fife, Puyallup Tribal Land, Tacoma and the Hylebos Waterway of Puget Sound.

According to the 2013 City of Federal Way Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan, the city must increase its Regional Parks, Open Space and Walking/Biking Trails to meet the community's basic needs and expectations. In 2017, it is anticipated that an additional 1.66 acres/1,000 people is necessary to maintain the level of service standard for regional parks. Future needs to 2017 show that the parks system will need to increase neighborhood park land by 6.06 acres per 1,000. With the 2017 population growth, there will also be a future need for open space of 20.78 acres of open space/1,000 people. In the plan, the City of Federal Way states, "One option for meeting the City's level of service standard for open space may be to add partial open space credit for open spaces owned by other public or private entities such as Weyerhaeuser, ..." Finally, in 2013, 78.61 acres of trails/1,000 was needed to meet level of service; and in 2017 future needs of an additional 8.8 acres of trails/1,000 is required.

Conserving key areas on the former Weyerhaeuser Campus would help the city to meet the needs and expectations for regional parks, open space and trails. As well, preserving the areas on the former Weyerhaeuser Campus would meet Federal Way Parks and Recreation Core Values: 1.) Multi-function Parks, 2.) Walking and Biking Networks, 3.) Open Spaces Improvement, 4.) Community Gathering Place, and 5.) Services for Diverse Population.

What can conserving these key areas provide to Federal Way residents and visitors? The open space on the former Weyerhaeuser Campus is very close to downtown and extending the trails could provide connectivity not only to the downtown core, the BPA trail, Celebration Park, but also outside the City to Milton and perhaps down to Auburn connecting with the Interurban Trail system. The walking trails on the former Weyerhaeuser Campus are unmatched by any trails in Federal Way as they are easily accessible and the terrain is flat, ADA accessible, and clear of obstructions. The undeveloped North Lake watershed would provide environmental protection, as well as environmental educational opportunities—learning about watershed, habitat, urban forests, and diversity of species. Shoreline access would be increased from the existing USWF fishing area, which not only includes fishing but also non-motorized boating such as paddle boarding and kayaking. The permanent anchoring of the Rhododendron Species Botanical Gardens and the Pacific Bonsai Museum would continue to bring over 30,000 visitors annually to a beautiful Federal Way, as well as offer wonderful gardens for people to enjoy. And finally, the open space and trails offer prime dog walking locations.

One of the challenges of conserving an area is that all parties involved need to work together. In this case, the current land owners Industrial Realty Group (IRG), the City of Federal Way, and the citizens. To involve groups such as Forterra or Trust for Public Land there must be a commitment by the city. The time is now. Conservation is urgent, as IRG could sell the property and this opportunity could be lost forever. We need the city to commit to the conservation plan, not just verbally, but financially.

(Continued on page 9)

#### Take action!

Email or mail a letter to Mayor Farrell and the City Council. Ask them to pass a resolution to commit--not just emotionally--but financially to the conservation of selected areas on the former Weyerhaeuser Campus: the North Lake Watershed and the west side of North Lake, Rhododendron Species Botanical Gardens and the Pacific Bonsai Museum, as well as key trail areas that would enable connectivity not only around the campus, but also to neighboring areas such as downtown.

#### **City of Federal Way Contacts**

Mayor Ferrell

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### Mewsings from Millie

Reprint Courtesy of Wild Birds Unlimited, Burien

Hello and welcome back to my musings.

There is a place on the Duwamish River where a couple of my people like to go birding. It's called the North Wind's Weir. By compiling several versions of the Native American legends regarding the origin of these rocks, anthropologist Arthur C. Ballard (1876 - 1962) created this story:

In days gone by, there was once a war between the North Wind people and the Chinook Wind people. Chinook Wind was married to Mountain Beaver Woman, the daughter of North Wind. The people of North Wind village did not like the man and so they killed him and his tribe. The only one left alive was Chinook Wind's mother, an old woman who lived on a stone mountain down along the Duwamish River.

North Wind held the land under his power, covering it with ice and snow. He stretched a fish weir of ice across the Duwamish River. No fish could get past this trap, and further up the valley the people starved. The land was desolate.

It came to pass that Mountain Beaver Woman had a son, Storm Wind. Chinook Wind was his father. As the boy grew up, he was warned by the North Wind people to never go near the mountain. They knew that he would question the old woman, and that she would tell him how his people were killed. Each day, the young man would hunt closer and closer to the mountain. One day, he got close enough to hear the old woman crying, so he went to her house. Inside, he found her weeping for her dead son. The ravens, who were the slaves of North Wind, perched above her, their droppings falling onto her face. This, along with the tears on her cheeks, had frozen into ice. For her fire, she had only the tops of cattail rush, which would blaze quickly, providing no warmth.

Storm Wind listened to her story. He went and pulled up big fir trees by the roots, and laid them at her door for fuel. He also gave the old woman a bone pointed arrow to punch the ravens with. He resolved to fight the North Wind people for what they had done.

Storm Wind left to retrieve his mother. While he was away, the old woman wove baskets to capture the rain. Some were large and coarsely woven to hold large raindrops, while others were tightly woven to hold fine mist. She left them outside to capture the rain. Soon, Storm Wind returned.

The next day, the old woman emptied the baskets and flooded the valley. Storm Wind went down to



the river. He tore up many trees and threw them into the water until they shattered the fish trap, turning it into stone. These stones can still be seen when water runs between them at low tide.

Storm Wind melted the ice and blew it north. The young man and his grandmother beat North Wind. Down the valley he ran, the land flooding behind him. If North Wind had not been chased away, we should all be cold and hungry all the time. As it is, we have a little snow and ice, but not for long.

The North Wind's Weir can be seen where the Green River Trail crosses the Duwamish River at the end of 27th Avenue South.

Until next time,

http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/planimplementation/srfb-northwinds.aspx



PO Box 778 Auburn, WA 98071

"The use of solar energy has not been opened up because the oil industry does not own the sun."

- Ralph Nader

Nonprofit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Kent, WA 98031 Permit No. 441



### **Rainier Audubon Membership Subscription or Renewal Form**

One-year Membership in Rainier Audubon \$25—Individual Membership / \$30—Family Membership

Circle one New / Renewal For new members:

How did you hear about Rainier Audubon Society?

To join or renew, mail this application with your payment to: Rainier Audubon Society - Membership

> PO Box 778 Auburn, WA 98071

| Name:   |       |       |  |
|---------|-------|-------|--|
| Address |       |       |  |
| City    | State | Zip   |  |
| Email   |       | Phone |  |

RAS Chapter membership includes 9 issues of the Heron Herald annually but does not include AUDUBON magazine.