

The Heron Herald



Rainier Audubon Society

March 2017

Rainier Audubon Membership Meeting

7:00 PM March 20, 2017

Photographing Birds

Jay Galvin & Dan Streiffert

Do you want to learn how to take better photographs of birds? Maybe you should start by reading your camera user manual! There are two aspects to photography: 1) technique and 2) composition. Good technique means you know how to get your subject in focus with the correct exposure in a wide variety of circumstances. This takes lots of practice. Just like playing a musical instrument, you need to have the mechanics figured out before you can focus on the composition.

Composition is transforming a snapshot into a work of art. To some folks, this comes naturally. Most of us struggle with this.

Jay Galvin and Dan Streiffert will share their approaches on how to shoot birds with your camera. Do's and don'ts of wildlife photography plus phototechniques will be discussed.

Bring questions or email to dan_streiffert@hotmail.com or gjgalvin@comcast.net

Join us at 6:30 for conversation and refreshments.

A very simple trick is used to get this chestnut-backed chickadee close for a photo. Can you spot it?



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.

New Rainier Audubon Facebook Page

Jay Galvin has created a Facebook page for us. Please check it out at

<https://www.facebook.com/rainieraudubonsociety/>

Programs - Dale Meland

- April - Ladd Smith "In Harmony Landscapes"
- May - Barbara, Marie, Cheryl and Pat - "Four RAS Gals in Ecuador"

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	253-941-3933	camcalcin@hotmail.com
Program Chair	Dale Meland	No	253-946-1637	dmeland@hotmail.com
Field Trip Chair	Barbara Petersen	Yes	253 389 3204	bbatfan@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
Newsletter Editor	Dan Streiffert	No	253-796-2203	dan_streiffert@hotmail.com
Webmaster	Treesa Hertzal	No	253-255-1808	Autumn207@comcast.net
Member at Large	Stephen Feldman	Yes	360-802-5211	stephanfeldman@gmail.com
Hospitality	Sandra Embrey	No	253-517-3633	sandra.embrey@gmail.com
Mailing	Debra Russell	No	425 829 4008	debrarussell@comcast.net
Lifetime Members	Max Prinsen	Yes	425-432-9965	
Lifetime Members	Erin Wojewodski-Prinsen	Yes	425-432-9965	

Seen & Heard by Calen Randall



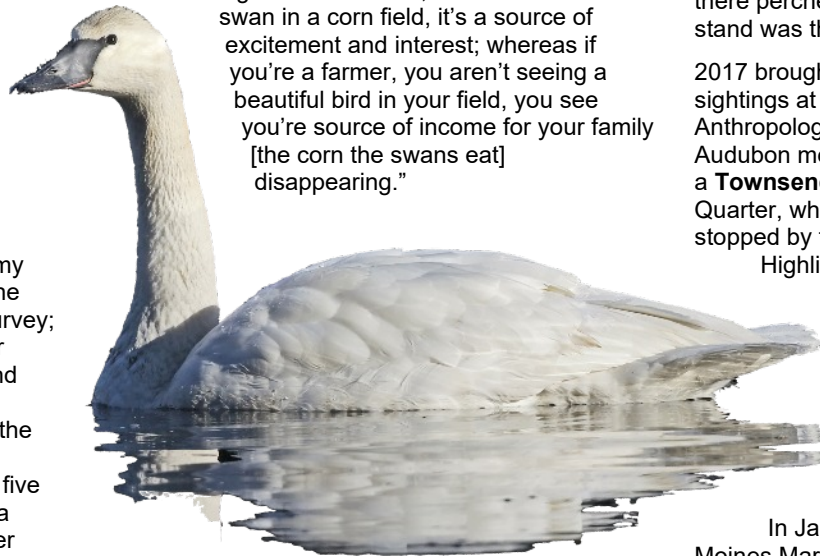
Over the six years that I have written the *Seen and Heard*, one bird species has perpetually garnered my attention. Every winter since 2011, at least one article has featured the Trumpeter Swans of the Kent Valley. However, this month I spent more time watching another group of Trumpeters. As the flock at Carpinito Brothers Pumpkin Patch was much lower this year, we ventured further south into Pierce County to spot swans. The changes in population and distribution is fascinating.

A few years ago, my Mom and I participated in the annual Trumpeter Swan Survey; a count of all the Trumpeter and Tundra Swans adult and juvenile in the region. That winter, 42 swans stayed in the valley, the largest flock at Carpinito's for the previous five years, but we also spotted a handful of swans at Spooner Farms in Alderton, just south of Sumner. Alderton, Charlie Wright's old birding grounds, has a history of hosting a handful of swans, especially at Spooner Farms and Van Ogle's Ford Road, where there are several large corn fields. However, in the past decade rarely did the flocks greatly exceed the size of Carpinito's flock (not since 2009 has it exceeded 80 members); that is, until this November when over 200 swans were routinely seen in the Puyallup River Valley.

In late January, my Mom and I once again went on the Trumpeter Swan Survey; this time, Martha Jordan the Executive Director for Northwest Swan Conservation Association (NSCA) drove down with her trio of dogs to view the swans in the South King County area. Dedicated to preservation of swan habitat, the NSCA along with the nation-wide

Trumpeter Swan Society has helped the Trumpeter Swan population climb from under 4,000 individuals in 1969 to well over 45,000 in 2016. In particular, the Pacific Northwest swan populations are doing quite well, with Skagit and Whatcom populations booming and the Snohomish and Carnation flocks are also growing.

That said much work remains to continue conservation of the agricultural areas where swans winter, while also keeping an eye out for farmers that depend on agriculture for jobs. Martha attributed some of the success in growing Trumpeter Swan numbers to maintaining that balance. "Viewing the Trumpeter Swans from a birding perspective and a farming perspective are two very different angles" Martha said, "We as birders see a swan in a corn field, it's a source of excitement and interest; whereas if you're a farmer, you aren't seeing a beautiful bird in your field, you see you're source of income for your family [the corn the swans eat] disappearing."



On the way back from Van Ogle's Ford Road, my Mom asked me if I had reported the swan sightings on eBird yet. When I asked Martha if the NSCA and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, who uses data from the Trumpeter Swan Surveys to track populations, got much use from eBird, Martha commented that very few people involved in the project used or checked eBird for swan data. She also stated that when one submits an eBird checklist at a birding hotspot, he or she should also send the data to the Department of Fish and Wildlife. As the state holds detailed official government records of what's seen in these regions, these records are a go-to source in land use development such as the Weyerhaeuser campus and in identifying land use conservation. Martha's

comments offered another view on the importance of citizen science and data collecting.

Sighted any Trumpeters lately? Got a good bird story to share? Email me your reports at calenbirds@hotmail.com

Recent Bird Sightings:

Barely a week into 2017, Barbara Petersen had a surprise flyer outside her condo window, a **Peregrine Falcon** flying through downtown Burien. Barbara saw it land "on a tall conifer five blocks south of our condo." Nice find Barbara! In early January, while driving along I-5 near the exit to Gig Harbor, I spotted a Peregrine as well, perched on a light stand. A month later while driving past the same spot, there perched on the exact same light stand was the Peregrine!

2017 brought three new first seen sightings at Highline College. Anthropology professor and new Rainier Audubon member Lonnie Somer glimpsed a **Townsend's Solitaire** early into Winter Quarter, while ten **American Wigeon** stopped by the pond for the first time in Highline's records. In February, he saw a **Wilson's Snipe** down in the reeds of the pond as well. In the past few years spring has yielded some great migrant species on campus. I wonder what Lonnie will discover?

In January, I stopped by Des Moines Marina to check out some sea birds. Amidst droves of **Horned Grebe**, **Common Goldeneye**, and **Surf Scoter** were four **Harlequin Ducks**, the blue shine of their feathers was just visible through the scope. Further off the end of the dock was a **Pigeon Guillemot**. Later that month, while birding with the Rainier Audubon Youth Naturalists watching the swans at Van Ogle's Ford Road, we viewed five **Western Meadowlarks**. The bright yellow of the lone male meadowlark was evident atop the wooden fence posts. Add in the **Eurasian Wigeon** and **Redheads** at Weyerhaeuser Pond and 2017 has been a year full of colourful birds.

On a trip up to Vancouver, British Columbia, I stopped at Boundary Bay in Delta, one of the great birding hotspots on

(Continued on [page 6](#))

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.

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

Soos Creek Owl Prowls

**Saturday Night, Mar 11, 2017;
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, [253-856-5000](tel:253-856-5000). 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 sign-ups.

Sequim and the Dungeness area

Jim Flynn

**Saturday, March 11th
Meeting time: 6:00 AM**

Sequim is a great birding spot with potential for all sorts of saltwater and freshwater birds, gulls and winter shorebirds, as well as open country birds like harriers and other raptors as well as lots of farm country birds and forest habitat denizens. The scenery is wonderful as well. Note: we usually don't hike out Dungeness spit as this takes a long time and many of the birds there are more easily found at our other stops. We will see the spit and may visit the area around the trailhead.

Bring binoculars, a scope if you have one. Lots of layers of clothes and snack/drinks as well as carpool money.

Meeting place: Star Lk park & ride (S. 272nd St and 26th Ave S, just west of I-5) Note: there are other park & ride lots in the area. Please call before the trip if you are unsure about this meeting spot.

End time: We will probably end up eating dinner in Sequim or in Kitsap Co. so we can keep birding until late afternoon. Back to Kent perhaps 8PM?

Sign up with Jim by email, text message or phone call, merlinmania@comcast.net, 206 399 6418.

Lakes and Parks of Federal Way & Vicinity

**Saturday, March 4
8:00 AM to 2:00 PM**
Leader: Steve Johnson

Steve will be taking us on an excursion. We had a lot of fun doing this trip last year. We'll visit some of the many lakes and ponds in Federal Way, where we will seek rare to uncommon ducks. We will also be looking for songbirds and seabirds in Fife and Redondo.

In early March we will be looking and listening for early migrants. We may walk up to a mile.

Bring: Lunch, drinks (hot drinks?), warm clothes. A scope is welcome.

Meet: 8:00 AM at the Star Lake P&R north of Federal Way. Folks who wish to leave early may do so.

Directions: Take I-5 to exit 147 north of Federal Way. Exit onto S 272nd St, and go west one block to the light. Turn right and go one block into the P&R on the right.

Sign-Up: Call or email Steve Johnson, 253-941-9852, johnsonsj5@msn.com

Olympic Birdfest

April 7-9, 2017

Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours, live auction & raffle, gala banquet, and more. Our featured speaker: noted nature photographer Bonnie Block.

Join our festival pre-trip: a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands, April 4-6, 2017. Register separately at www.pugetsoundexpress.com/audubon. Extend your festival with our Neah Bay post-trip on April 9-11, 2017: two days exploring northwest coastal Washington. BirdFest registration at www.olympicbirdfest.org.



Dan Streiffert

**SHADOW Lake
Nature Preserve
Events**

<http://shadowhabitat.org/>

Owl Prowl

3/10/17 from 9 pm to 11:30 pm

Join local birding-enthusiasts to learn about owls, their biology, and how to make an owl call! Then, join SHADOW Lake Nature Preserve staff and birding experts for a night-time tour of the Preserve. Practice your owl calls and see if we can entice an owl to respond!

Suggested donation \$10 per participant. This event is open to all ages, but for children under 10, please bring a parent or guardian. Questions? Contact Emily Carlson: emily@shadowhabitat.org or call 425-432-4914

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/owl-prowl-tickets-31137881241>

Make A Splash: World Water Day Celebration

3/25/17 from 11 am to 2pm

Celebrate World Water Day by spending an afternoon learning about wetlands! Use a real microscope to look at aquatic organisms, play nutrient tag, and take a tour of our 5,000-year-old peat bog!

Suggested donation \$10 per participant. This event is open to all ages, but for children under 10, please bring a parent or guardian. Questions? Contact Emily Carlson: emily@shadowhabitat.org or call 425-432-4914

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/make-a-splash-world-water-discovery-day-tickets-30342394920>

Yakima River Canyon Bird Fest

May 12-14, 2017

Mark your calendars! May 12th - 14th, Kittitas Environmental Education Network (KEEN) is hosting a new birding festival, Yakima River Canyon Bird Fest. Events include guided field trips, workshops (photography, birding by ear, bird illustration), family-oriented activities, a kids' day camp, keynote speaker (Paul Bannick, on owls), with a banquet at Red's Yakima River Canyon Resort, an owl prowl, self-guided field trips (maps provided), and more! You can get all the information on the website:

www.ycic.org/yakima-river-canyon-bird-fest

EDUCATION MATTERS

RAS Youth Naturalists Explore Saltwater State Park

On Wednesday, February 22nd the RAS youth group ventured out to Saltwater Park with Leaders Steve Johnson, Calen Randall and Cindy Flanagan. The kids and parents got great experience trying to navigate spotting scopes on the water and discovered how quickly sea birds move. Highlights in the water included Common Goldeneye, Common Mergansers, snag-perching juvenile and adult Bald Eagles, very distant Surf Scoters and some very large ships. On the wooded trail, the group had fun watching a tiny Pacific Wren and listening to the laughing calls of two Pileated Woodpeckers.

Listening to all of the children and parents about their observations and stories is absolutely thrilling-- seeing how engaged they are with nature and their environment, and that they are enjoying this gift with others. Richard Louv, author of *The Nature Principle* points out that our outings help all of us know who we are by knowing where we are. In his book, Louv quotes David Orr,

“I do not know whether it is possible to love the planet or not, but I do know that it is possible to love the places we can see, touch, smell and experience.”

Our RAS Youth Naturalist Group is growing a wonderful community that fosters friendship and memories exploring our precious landscape and the rich wildlife.



Photo from RACHEL SCHINDLER

(Continued from [page 3](#))

the Pacific Coast. Situated on a tidal flat curved in between Point Roberts, Washington, and the Peace Arch American/Canadian border, Boundary Bay is an excellent spot for shorebirds and raptors. It didn't take long for our **Bald Eagle** count to soar into the dozens. Once we got within a couple miles of the bay, they were everywhere. In some farm fields every other post sported a perched eagle. Doves of gulls, crows, and a half dozen **Common Raven**, sailed from the shoreline to the dump, a few kilometers inland and another attraction for many of the birds. Boundary Bay certainly lived up to its excellent raptor billing. Amongst the hundreds of eagles we spotted five **Northern Harriers**, a trio of **Short-eared Owls**, including a female that appeared to have nearly snagged a mouse for dinner, and a **Peregrine Falcon**. The

wetland is definitely not a hotspot to pish for songbirds!

What to Look for in the Month of March:

Early spring is right on the cusp and many birds are already back on the longest red eye flights of the year namely, spring migration. Here are some early arriving birds to keep watch for in March.

- Keep an eye on the sky for groups of migrating Turkey Vultures. I've heard reports that some individual vultures were seen as early as the first week of February. Watch for them drafting in the thermals.
- Another raptor to search for, this bird of prey might be spotted on a cell tower or in its nest. Ospreys make their return to the South King County in March and can often be spotted fishing over our lakes.

- While most of our ducks will head to the mountains for mating season, Cinnamon Teal pop up during the spring months. You can occasionally spot them in the fields and retention ponds around Mill Creek in the Auburn Valley near the U-Haul off 277th Ave.
- Tree and Violet-Green Swallows swooping after insects are a welcome site in early spring. Fun ID fact: You can tell Trees and Violet-Greens apart based on the ratio between the wing and tail length. Tree Swallows have tails and wings that are even in length, while the Violet-green have a shorter tail.

Send your sightings/hearings to calenbirds@hotmail.com I love reading your reports!

Bird of the Month: Yellow-Rumped Warbler

Reprint Courtesy of Wild Birds Unlimited, Burien



Dan Streiffert

The Yellow-rumped Warbler is a fairly large warbler with a sturdy bill and a long narrow tail. In the summer, both male and female show flashes of white in the wings and yellow on the face, sides and rump. The female is duller and may show some brown. In winter, the birds are paler but still show the bright yellow rump and some yellow on the sides.

This warbler is very active, foraging in tree canopies and snatching insects from the air. It will also come to suet feeders and is attracted to moving water as most birds are.

In the Pacific Northwest, this beautiful warbler occurs all the way down to sea level wherever conifers are present.

The Yellow-rumped Warbler eats mainly insects in the summer. In the winter it eats a great number of berries, particularly bayberry and wax myrtle which its digestive system is uniquely suited to among warblers. This habit is one reason why the Yellow-rumped Warbler winters so much farther north than other warbler species. It will also eat seeds and may come to feeders for sunflower seeds, raisins, peanut butter and suet.

The female builds the nest sometimes using material the male carries to her. The nest is a cup of twigs, pine needles, grasses and rootlets. She may also use animal hair, moss and lichens. The nest is lined with fine hair and feathers, sometimes woven into the nest in such a way that they curl up and over the eggs. The nest will be 3 - 4 inches across and about 2 inches tall when it is finished.

The female will lay 1 - 6 white eggs that are speckled with brown, reddish-brown, gray or purplish gray. She will incubate the eggs for 12 - 13 days and the chicks will fledge in 10 - 14 days. The chicks when hatched are helpless and naked with sparse brown down.

The Yellow-rumped Warbler flits through the canopies of coniferous trees as it forages. The male tends to forage higher in the trees than the female. It will cling to the bark surface looking for hidden insects more than many warblers do, but it will also sit on an exposed branch and catch passing insects like a flycatcher does. In the winter, it may join a flock and switch to eating berries from fruiting shrubs.

The Yellow-rumped Warbler will confront an intruder bird by holding its body horizontally, fanning its tail and raising it to form a right angle with its body. When it finds itself foraging with other warbler species, it will usually let Palm, Magnolia and Black-throated Green warblers do as they wish, but it will assert itself over Pine and Blackburnian warblers.

When a male courts a female, he will fluff his feathers, raise his wings and the feathers of his crown and hop from perch to perch chipping. He may also do a display flight by gliding back and forth or flying slowly with exaggerated wingbeats.

The oldest recorded Yellow-rumped Warbler was at least 7 years old.

Mewsings from Millie

Reprint Courtesy of Wild Birds Unlimited, Burien

Hello, and welcome once again to my musings!

Being a cat, I am naturally curious. I love to learn new things and I'm always amazed by what I learn about birds and nature in general.

For instance, do you know why flamingos stand on one leg? It's to keep the other leg warm!

Speaking of staying warm, have you ever wondered (I know I have) what birds do on long, chilly nights? I learned on KNKX's [Birdnote](#) that they don't snuggle down in cozy little nests. The only time of year when birds sleep in nests is when they are sitting on eggs or keeping their young warm. During the rest of the year, birds seek out a roosting spot. Songbirds find a protected place to perch that is out of the rain and safe from nocturnal predators. Small forest birds may spend

the night huddled together in tree cavities. Ducks float in protected bays, woodpeckers cling to vertical tree trunks and crows gather together to roost in communes.

Birds fluff up their feathers for insulation and often crouch down over their legs and feet to keep them toasty. Counter to what most of us believe, birds cannot tuck their heads under their wings to sleep. But they can turn their heads and poke their beaks under their shoulder feathers to keep their beaks warm.

I also found out why birds' tiny feet don't freeze and stick to metal perches and why ducks' feet don't freeze and stick to the ice. Birds' feet are not much more than bone, sinew and scale with very few nerves. A fine pattern of arteries called "rete mirabile" carries warm blood from the bird's heart and interweaves it with the veins carrying cold blood from the feet and



legs. This interweaving warms the cold blood before it reaches the heart and keeps the legs and feet warm. Also, birds' feet don't have sweat glands, so they stay dry. That is why they don't freeze and stick to things.

Until next time,

Millie

The Muse of Mews

Backyard 'n Birds - Marie West-Johnson

An invitation to a Healthy Yard. Cascade Water Alliance has free Gardening Classes. Here is the web address to check out what is being offered. All that is necessary is to register and classes are held around the King County area. [CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE | Cascade Gardener](#)

Spring is just around the corner and it is time to invite birds and butterflies into your yard. When "birdscaping" your yard, be mindful of the dangers windows and cats are to wildlife.

Take the Healthy Yard Pledge: 1.) Reduce pesticides use 2.) Conserve water and protect water quality 3.) Remove invasive and exotic plants 4. Plant native species. Make the Pledge online at: www.audubonathome.org.

Audubon has another great website for local gardening information. www.audubon.org/native plants. This site is a native plant database. Just enter your zip code for information relevant to your local gardening needs.

Happy Gardening!!

Save Weyerhaeuser Campus Update by Cindy Flanagan

Conservation on the Weyerhaeuser Campus another step closer!

Good news! The *Save Weyerhaeuser Campus Group* and the conservation team from our Rainier Audubon have made huge progress towards conserving approximately 40 acres of the western shoreline of North Lake that is on the former Weyerhaeuser Campus. The city of Federal Way and Federal Way City Council have approved using \$1 million dollars of Surface Water Management funds towards conserving the shoreline area which resides in the North Lake-Hylebos Watershed. As well, the city has approved applying for a \$1 million dollar matching fund from King County Conservation Funds. The good news does not stop here. King County Council Member Pete von Reichbauer has committed his full support of our conservation efforts and has a motion to be presented to King County Council on Monday, February 27th for council to support asking the King County Conservation Futures Citizen Advisory Committee to give top priority to our application. Should the application be approved, we will have \$2 million towards the purchase of this property. While no formal assessment has been made, it is estimated that acquisition of this property will be somewhere between \$4-7 million.

We are working hard to anchor the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden, the Pacific Bonsai Museum and a connecting trail system. It is important that we reach out to the city of Federal Way, King County representatives and State representatives to let them know that we need to conserve these areas because they are of regional importance.

For more information visit
saveweyerhaeusercampus.org

Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden and Pacific Bonsai Museum are OPEN for visitors.

Looking for something to do? The weather is nice and the Rhodie Garden and the Pacific Bonsai Museum on the former Weyerhaeuser Headquarters Campus are open. Even though it looks like the campus is closed, you can gain access to the gardens off of 336th at the west entrance and park in the top parking lot by the headquarters building.



Trumpeter Swans on North Lake

Did you know that the Rhody Garden isn't just a nice place with pretty flowers? It is the top Rhododendron Botanical Garden in the world and it is doing international work to conserve Rhododendron species and companion plants. The garden has 740 of 1000 Rhododendron species. Several are threatened and endangered and our own Rhododendron garden is saving them! Not only that, the garden is a great place to go birding and nesting season is around the corner. I encourage you to get out to the gardens! Even better, consider buying an annual membership and start going weekly—there is always something blooming on this 23-acre gem.

Visit their websites: rhodygarden.org
Pacificbonsaimuseum.org



Don't blow it - good planets are hard to find.
~Quoted in Time



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.