



Columbia Flyway

VANCOUVER AUDUBON SOCIETY

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

vancouveraudubon.org

Chartered December 18, 1975

October 2018

Calendar

***Tuesday, Oct. 2, 7:00 PM: Vancouver Audubon Society's General Meeting at the Genealogy Society at 717 Grand Boulevard (Grand & Evergreen) in Vancouver, WA

🏠 Tuesday, Sept. 25, 6:30 PM: VAS Board Meeting hosted by Bob Rowe
2010 SE 140th Ave. Vancouver 360-254-8699

🏠 Tuesday, Oct. 30, 6:30 PM: VAS Board Meeting hosted by George & Cindy
Mayfield, 24315 NE 59th Ave., Battleground 360-687-0360

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

PROGRAM: Hanford Nuclear Site

Speaker: Dan Serres,

Conservation Director of Columbia Riverkeeper.

Dan will present to us about the Hanford Nuclear Site in Eastern Washington where the U.S. government produced plutonium for the nation's nuclear weapons arsenal. The resulting radioactive and chemical pollution threatens the Hanford Reach, a free-flowing 50-mile stretch of the Columbia River. The Hanford Reach, protected as a national monument eighteen years ago, offers one of the most unique habitats for fish and wildlife in the entire region and a source of drinking water for the Tri-Cities. He will focus on efforts to clean up the Hanford site's contaminated structures, soils, and groundwater. Dan will discuss a controversial proposal by the U.S. Department of Energy to reclassify high-level waste in Hanford's tanks, a precursor to leaving high-level waste buried at the site indefinitely. Dan will also present findings from a report that Riverkeeper released this summer which explores the long-term consequences of Energy's cleanup approach for area tribes and the general public.



FIELD TRIP: Rarebird Run

Leader: Cindy McCormack 509-939-4448
nwbirdr@gmail.com

When: Oct. 13, Saturday

Time: 8:00 AM

Meet at: Salmon Creek Park & Ride at 134th St.
(Tenney St) & 10th Ave.

Please sign-up at the meeting or at the email address. This could be an all-day trip depending on what birds are available. Bring lunch and Good Weather!!!

We will carpool.

Do not forget to pay your driver for gas.

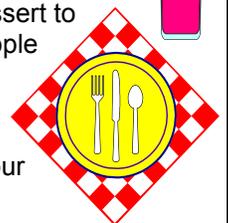


ANNUAL Fall POTLUCK



When: October 2 **Time:** 6:00 PM
Where: Genealogy Society at 717 Grand Boulevard (Grand & Evergreen) in Vancouver, WA

Please bring a main dish, salad or dessert to serve at least 10 people to share. Bring your own table service (plate, utensils, cup, napkins, etc) and your own drinks.



Vancouver Audubon

Birdfest! At Ridgefield NWR

October 5-7, Friday evening through Sunday

Come enjoy the fun at our annual Birdfest. There will be bird walks, geology walks, photo workshops, Crane tours and a Bird Language Workshop. Friday evening will start with an event at the Sportsman's Grill in town followed by a night hike on the Carty Unit. The Birder's Marketplace (arts & crafts), Audubon Birds and many fun activities for kids plus the Bluegrass Pickers will be in town on Saturday. The Bluegrass Pickers, besides being scattered in multiple venues in town, will be offering workshops too. Vancouver Audubon will be hosting the scoping station on River S on Saturday and Sunday plus leading a bird walk Saturday morning on the Kiwa Trail. The Kiwa Trail closes for the season after Birdfest. Sunday will be activities on the refuge with more walks, scoping station and a Salmon and fish bake in the afternoon at the Plankhouse which is hosted by our Chinookan friends.

Some activities require advanced registration and a fee. Our popular Crane Tours fill up fast. Go to www.ridgefieldfriends.org and follow the links to the Birdfest and Bluegrass page where you will see a list of all activities and instructions on how to sign up for the various activities requiring registration.

You are welcome to visit us at the Scoping station on the River S unit at the hunt gate between 9 am and 3 pm Saturday or Sunday. We will have good views of the hunt zone with hopes of watching the Sandhill Cranes throughout both days.



INJURED BIRDS: WHAT TO DO?

We have no Bird Rehabilitators in the Vancouver Area that we know of. So what should you do if you find yourself in this situation?

Many Birds that hit a window just need some time to rest to get "their wind back" before taking off again. Try putting them in a box with plenty of air for an hour or more until you hear movement then take them outdoors and test if they are ready to fly off. If not then....



1. Call the **Portland Audubon Wildlife Care Center** for information: 503-292-0304
5151 NW Cornell Rd, Portland OR
2. Call Arden 360-635-1828 (cell) or 360-892-8872 (home)
3. If he is available to transport a bird to the Portland Audubon Wildlife Care Center then you will be asked to donate a gas mileage compensation and a small donation for the Care Center for the care of the bird at the time of pick up.
3. There is 24 hr **Animals Hospital called DoveLewis** in downtown Portland that will take the bird overnight if the Portland Audubon Wildlife is closed.
1945 NW Pettygrove 503-228-7281

In the meantime....

Keep the bird in a box with small air holes.

You might offer water via a dropper, and if necessary watered down puppy chow to supply nutrients.

The Columbian Flyway Renewal Notice



The month of September was renewal month for Columbia Flyway subscription.

NOTE: New price of \$20

Have you renewed yet ???

Welcome New Members:

Patricia Baggett • Linda Broderick • Barbara Gee & Dave Slocum • Roy Farman • Debra Frost • Delores Goodrich • William Hughes • Dennis Johnson • Jean Johnson • Julie Whittum.

The County's Railroad

There is a short line railroad, the Chelatchie Prairie Railroad, in the north county. If you have been to Moulton Falls Park, you may have seen it. It runs through Yacolt to Moulton Falls.

It is a kind of leftover from the time when the builder of the railroad intended to have the railroad go from Yacolt over the mountains to Yakima. That never happened. When the last private owner of the railroad decided to get rid of it, rather than let the land go to the adjacent property owners, the county bought it. The thought was that a hiking trail might be developed alongside the tracks. There was one property owner who strongly opposed a trail running along his property. That issue was never resolved and I moved on to other issues.

Recently, through Friends of Clark County, I learned that the county had leased the railroad to one Eric Temple, and Mr. Temple had ambitions. He promised jobs for the county if the councilors did what he asked. Which is what they are doing. Even the legislature acted to accommodate Eric Temple. They have passed legislation to allow industrial development along the railroad, even on land designated for agriculture. The county councilors have talked about allowing industrial uses on land within a mile on both sides of the railroad. That would be a two mile swath of industrial land through the countryside. This without the needed utilities such as sewer. Or, if utilities are developed, the question would be: who would pay for them. Not to mention the hole blown in the county's growth management plan.

The councilors have appointed a committee to work on determining the uses to be allowed in this special industrial zone and the standards to be met by the industries located there. Among the uses mentioned by the committee so far are ready mix concrete and paper manufacturing as permitted uses and chemical and asphalt manufacturing as conditional uses. Sight seeing transportation would be not allowed. Members of Friends of Clark County have been attending these meetings and from their e-mails I get the impression that Eric Temple is running the show. He also seemed surprised that there would have to be public input on any decision concerning the railroad and changes in land use along the railroad.

So. We have a person who is leasing the coun-

ty railroad, but who is acting as if he owned the railroad and all the land along it, besides. We have a county council who is giving that person all he wants. Should Eric Temple get his way, we will have a two mile wide industrial zone slamming through designated agricultural land. And all for the mere *promise* of jobs. This is a speculative enterprise at best. And, by the way, the Port of Vancouver has industrial land available. Including land that might have been an oil port.

As for wildlife and wildlife habitat, this proposal does nothing good. To quote from a study by the county Clean Water Commission, "Wildlife will almost certainly be negatively impacted by noise, vehicular traffic, and loss of habitat. This will in turn reduce hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities in the area for residents and visitors and reduce the quality of neighbors' private lands for wildlife habitat and hunting uses."

Gretchen Starke 

Volunteers Needed

Program Director: After several years of providing us with great programs every month, Bob Rowe has decided to step down at the end of the year. We need someone to fill his position before the New Year starts and we will need a March 2019 program since the Hagen's are sharing their Argentina Trip in February.

Newspaper / Website Editor: Since the mid 1980's, Sherry Hagen has produced the Flyway Newsletter starting with type & paste to computer layout. She also took on the duties of keeping our website up to date when the internet got into full swing.

She's tired and would like to step down and let someone else have the fun. If you would like to step up and fill any of these spots contact President Arden Hagen 360-892-8872
iambakerman@comcast.net

Aug. 8, While birding at Fort Vancouver, Cindy McGormack spotted a **SWAINSON'S HAWK** flying over, this is a hawk of the open grassland east of the Cascades that once was called a Grasshopper Hawk as insects are their main food source.

Aug. 16, Based on input from Randy Hill, Jim Danzenbaker visited the south end of Rest Lake and found a good variety of shorebirds. **KILLDEER:**

4, **SEMIPALMATED PLOVER:** 2, **GREATER YELLOWLEGS:** 26, **LESSER YELLOWLEGS:** 3, **LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER:** 4, **LEAST SANDPIPER:** 24, **WESTERN SANDPIPER:** 15, **SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER:** 1, **PECTORAL SANDPIPER:** 1, **SOLITARY SANDPIPER:** 1, and **WILSON'S SNIPE:** 14 He also had one flyby **BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON** which is rarely seen in Clark County.



40 **AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS** flew over-head and the **GREAT EGRET** number had climbed to about 25. A flyby **VIRGINIA RAIL** was a bonus sighting.

Aug. 19, A **CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD** and 2 **BLACK SWIFTS** were the best birds of the day while Susan and I had our coffee on the deck.

Aug. 20, A **BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER** sighted at the Botanical Gardens in Brush Prairie may not be an uncommon bird, but it was a lifer Michelle Maani. Seems like people can always remember where you saw your first of any species.

Aug. 23, Jim Danzenbaker headed to Shilapoo Lake which is just north of Vancouver Lake in the Vancouver Bottoms in search of shorebirds finding the following: **GREATER YELLOWLEGS** 8, **LESSER YELLOWLEGS** 3, **KILLDEER** 8, **LEAST SANDPIPER** 25+, **WESTERN SANDPIPER** 20+, **SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER** 1, **BAIRD'S SANDPIPER** 2, **SEMIPALMATED PLOVER** 5, **WILSON'S SNIPE** 2, **LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER** 1. Two flocks of **GREAT-ER WHITE-FRONTED GEESE** totaling over 100 birds were quite early for them. Another surprise was a **GREEN HERON** that descended from fairly high and circled around for about 5-7 minutes before moving on. All six species of swallows and **PURPLE MARTIN** were milling around overhead. He tallied 50 species while standing in one spot for three hours

Aug. 25, It was a good day for migrant hummingbirds at our home east of Washougal, we had **CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD**, **BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD**, **ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD** and **RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD** at our feeders.

Aug. 27, Skamania County's first **BAIRD'S SANDPIPER** was found by Marv Breece at Rock Creek Pond.

We had another female **BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD** visit or feeders.

Aug. 29, Bob Flores checked Frenchmen's Bar Park where he often visits during migration and found the following birds, **SWAINSON'S THRUSH** 6, **WESTERN WOODPEWEE** 9, **BROWN CREEPER** 8, **BAND-TAILED PIGEON** 26, **OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER** 1, **HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER** 1, **PACIFIC SLOPED FLYCATCHER** 2, **WILLOW FLYCATCHER** 1, **YELLOW WARBLER** 9, **WILSON'S WARBLER** 6, **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER** 4, **BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER** 4, **HAIRY WOODPECKER** 1, **DOWNY WOODPECKER** 4. A shad minnow die-off had occurred on the lake and it attracted a number of gulls near the park and flushing channel where he identified **ICELAND (Thayer's)** 1, **RING-BILLED GULL** 170, **CALIFORNIA GULL** 20, **GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL** 6 and 3 **CASPIAN TERN**.

Susan and I made a stop at the little White Salmon Fish Hatchery where we found a single juvenile **HARLEQUIN DUCK** just below the dam.

Sept. 5, Susan and I were having our morning coffee on the back deck when several high-flying **RED-TAILED HAWKS** flew over, one of them being dive bombed by a smaller raptor, when we got our binoculars on we were surprised to see it was a **PRAIRIE FALCON**, a new bird for our property list.

Sept. 6, Jim Danzenbaker had another fun morning on Larch Mountain highlighted by: 1 immature **NORTHERN GOSHAWK**, at least 10 **TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE**, 2 **GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW** (first of Fall), 2 **FOX SPARROW** (first of Fall), 1 **HERMIT THRUSH** - (first of Fall). One flock of warblers included: 3 **HERMIT WARBLER**, 6 **TOWNSEND'S WARBLER**, 4 **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER**, 4 **BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER**, 1 **NASHVILLE WARBLER**: (unusual in this county in "Fall") 2 **YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER**, 2 **WARBLING VIREO** and 5 **WESTERN Tanager**.

Sept. 7, Jim Danzenbaker returned to Larch Mountain finding a flock of 6 **WESTERN BLUEBIRDS**

his first **LINCOLN'S SPARROW** of the Fall, a probable **DUSKY FLYCATCHER**, a **HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER**, a flyby calling **HORNED LARK** which is the first he has ever had on Larch Mountain which was flying with an **AMERICAN PIPIT** and one family of 5 **TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRES**.

Sept. 8, An after the rains visit to Frenchman's Bar Park by Bob Flores turned up **WILSON'S WARBLER** 2, **PACIFIC-SLOPED FLYCATCHER** 1, **WESTERN WOOD-PEWEE** 1, **WARBLING VIREO** 1, **RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET** 1, **BARN SWALLOW** 72, **SWAINSON'S THRUSH** 6, **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER** 2, **YELLOW WARBLER** 2,

Vancouver Audubon

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER 8, YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER 1, COMMON YELLOWTHROAT 2.

So far, we have had a very slow fall migration at our place in the west end of the Columbia Gorge. There was a poor crop of fruit on our Bitter Cherry and Cascara trees so they did not attract any large flocks of Black-headed Grosbeaks and Western Tanagers and were mostly consumed by the Cedar Waxwings in mid-August. Today after the rain subsided Susan and I were sitting on the back deck and noted our first flocks of **AMERICAN ROBINS** arriving, apparently the plentiful Mountain Ash berries haven't ripened yet as they ignored them. When these trees ripen they are a magnet for mixed flocks of thrushes that will strip a dozen 30 year old trees within a week. While sitting on the deck we spotted a female **CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD** perched atop a shrub and then had a taiga **MERLIN** land on top of a small tree near us where it remained for several minutes. And we had the first fall flock of **BAND-TAILED PIGEONS** descend on our feeders.

222 species of birds have been reported from Clark County by the end of August for the 2015 County Cumulative Yearlist Project and 181 sightings from Skamania County. To see the lists for each county go to: http://wabirder.com/county_yearlist.html

By the end of September most of the shorebirds will have moved south along with the vireos, warblers, tanagers and other fruit and insect eating species. The focus of birding will then turn to the species that winter here including the thousands of swans, geese and ducks that nest in the far north along with Short-eared Owls, Rough-legged Hawks and the winter finches and sparrows. During these mass movements of birds there are always a few stray birds that show up like geese and ducks from the Eurasian continent.

Wilson Cady

Audubon Supports Washington's Clean Air, Clean Energy Initiative 1631

This November, Washington voters will have a chance to pass Initiative 1631, which aims to reduce pollution by investing in clean air, clean energy, clean water, healthy forests, and healthy communities by imposing a fee on large greenhouse gas emitters based on their pollution. It would put a price on carbon at \$15/ton and increase it every year by \$2 plus inflation.

I-1631 is revenue positive, meaning money raised from the carbon fee on large polluters would be invested in clean energy projects. Among the uses:

- reducing pollution,

- boosting energy efficiency,
- producing clean energy and fuels,
- creating rural and urban jobs in Washington
- providing transition assistance to workers and communities

Revenue from the carbon fee would be used for clean energy investments (70%), clean water and healthy forest investments (25%), and healthy community investments (5%) under oversight of a public board.

Washington's Clean Air, Clean Energy I-1631 is an excellent way of encouraging Congress to put a national price on greenhouse gas pollution. Companies that do business in multiple states would rather deal with one federal carbon fee than track a dozen different state fees or taxes, so enacting state legislation builds political will for congressional action.

Here are five actions you can take.

1. **Register and Vote:** Check with your county elections department to make sure that you are registered to vote at your current address. Then, be sure to vote for I 1631 when you receive your vote-by-mail ballot.
2. **VoterCircle:** This is great new software that cross references your email contacts with the Washington registered voter file and gives you the power to easily sort and email all your relevant contacts in Washington and urge them to support I-1631. <http://votercircle.com/o/vancouver-circle-organizing-for-yes-on-1631/join>
3. **Write a Letter to the Editor:** Write a letter to the editor to your local newspaper and let your voice be heard in favor of I-1631.
4. **Door knocking:** What the campaign needs most is thousands of volunteers to be out knocking on doors or phone-banking for I-1631. Training is provided. Find an event near you at this link:

http://act.yeson1631.org/event/field-events/search/?_ga=2.101752897.1129469926.1535481659-197716276.1533168088

5. **Tabling and General Engagement:** You can also find local events and set up a table with I-1631 material to urge people to vote Yes. Same link as Action 4. *Susan Saul*

VANCOUVER AUDUBON SOCIETY

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vancouveraudubon.org

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ORGANIZATION
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*Mission Statement:
Vancouver Audubon
believes in the wisdom
of nature's design and
promotes this through
education, involvement,
stewardship, enjoyment
and advocacy.*

October 2018

THE COLUMBIA FLYWAY is the monthly newsletter of the Vancouver Audubon Society, a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Publication deadline is at the board meeting each month.

VANCOUVER AUDUBON ** MEMBERSHIP & DONATION COUPON

Membership dues support speaker programs, Flyway production and conservation projects.

_____ I wish to become a member/renew membership to Vancouver Audubon for \$10/year.

_____ I wish to support Vancouver Audubon with an additional donation of \$ _____

_____ I wish only to support Vancouver Audubon with a donations of \$ _____

_____ I prefer to receive the VAS Flyway by printed copy _____ by email _____ [PDF]

Membership Renewal date:
September 1st
every year

VAS will not share your information with any other organization. However, we may send out a limited number of time sensitive news items we feel are important to club membership.

Chapter Code: Y13

Please include this coupon and make check payable to and send to:
Vancouver Audubon, P.O. Box 1966, Vancouver, WA 98668-1966

For more Info Call:
George Mayfield 360-687-0360 (membership)

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

For additional information on membership to National Audubon, got to <http://www.audubon.org/>

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