

# The Skagit Flyer

Skagit Audubon Society  
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

Volume 39, No. 7 [www.skagitaudubon.org](http://www.skagitaudubon.org) September 2020

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## SEPTEMBER MEETING – PRESENTED ON ZOOM

*Nature Beyond Solitude: Notes from the Field*  
Presented by John Seibert Farnsworth, Ph.D.  
Tuesday, September 8, 7:00 PM

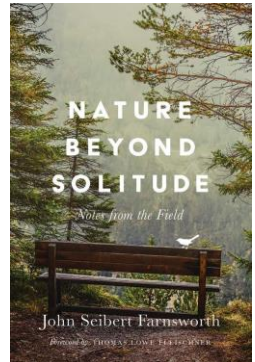
John Seibert Farnsworth will be reading from his new book, *Nature Beyond Solitude: Notes from the Field*. Dr. Farnsworth, emeritus faculty in Environmental Studies and Sciences from Santa Clara University, lives in La Conner and the San Juan Islands. He also serves as Conservation Chair for Seattle Audubon. One of the chapters in the book contains a narrative about a hike in 2016 when the author joined up with Skagit Audubon and saw a bird that was a lifer for him, one of 50 species identified that day. Were you on that hike?

Please register for the Zoom event at the following link:

<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJwrf-10qzsuHNUA7RadpQop0DfqbFEGk6Tz>

Preregistration is required and is limited to 100 attendees. Please only one registrant per household. After you register, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Please note that we also plan to record this meeting and will be sharing it on our website at a later date. Questions: Contact Carla Helm at [carlajhelm@comcast.net](mailto:carlajhelm@comcast.net).

Program Bonus: If you would like to sign into the meeting 15 minutes early (6:45 pm), Skagit Audubon Treasurer Neil O'Hara will give a brief presentation about how to take photos using a scope and a smart phone.



## JULY AND AUGUST SAS ZOOM PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

If you wish to view the recordings of the live program presentations, please visit the links below. Enjoy!

**July 14, 2020 – Presented by Jan Loomis - "Midway Atoll Annual Albatross Nesting Census and Other News from Midway Atoll"** is now available for viewing at the following link: <https://youtu.be/eouVPSCXC8Q>

\*\*\*Note: No distribution or duplication of this video is allowed. It is for personal use only unless express permission is granted by the author, [janetteloomis@hotmail.com](mailto:janetteloomis@hotmail.com).\*\*\*

**August 11, 2020 – Presented by Ben Goldfarb - "Eager: The Surprising, Secret Life of Beavers and Why They Matter"**, is now available at the following link: <https://youtu.be/VpxZThhwcVM>

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**Due to the continuing emergency response to the COVID-19 virus, all in-person meetings, field trips, hikes and other activities have been cancelled until further notice. Please visit our website for updates.**

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- Greetings Skagit Audubon members and friends and I had hoped to be writing to say how good it will be to see you back at our September meeting. Instead we have to settle for brief glimpses of our friends during the monthly Zoom meeting. We do have to be grateful that our current board has so many wonderful members that have stepped up to keep us going during the time of pandemic. I think we should all thank Kim Nelson for her assistance with setting up our virtual meetings. I would also like to thank North Cascades Institute for their generosity in granting us temporary access to their Zoom account. I, for one, will be looking at NCI's offerings in the near future and trying to support them as they have supported us. By the way, we now have our own Zoom account thanks to the work of our new Vice President, Denny Quirk.

Carla Helm has been great at her job as she has stepped up to find additional speakers to cover our summer months. It is always a juggling show with speakers and dates and Carla has done a fine job. All of the board members have contributed to a wide variety of ongoing projects: updating bylaws, awarding our first scholarship, tracking and commenting on environmental issues, budgeting for the upcoming year and trying to keep our membership interested and engaged.

I know that some of our regular hikers and birding field trip participants might be feeling a little frustrated about our lack of outings, but there is little we can do right now except stay safe and hope for a quick vaccine that will allow us to get back to a new version of normal. Until then, check out the National Audubon website for the article "Birdwatching Is a Bright Spot in a Pandemic-Stricken Economy" and upcoming events ([www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org)). Also, check out the Skagit Audubon website for new information and upcoming programs and we have a new Facebook page that you can read and contribute to. We can, and Colleen and I do, find places where we can mix meeting people with social distancing for appropriate hikes, birding adventures or other outdoor fun.

We'll end with some really good news! From New York: "United States District Court Judge Valerie Caproni ruled on Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> that the legal opinion which serves as the basis for the Trump administration rollback of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act does not align with the intent and language of the 100-year-old law." Today's decision comes as a result of a series of lawsuits brought in 2018 by Audubon, several other conservation groups, and eight states.

We are all in this together and with luck and persistence will get through it. Until then, stay safe, wear your mask and wash your hands.

Jeff Osmundson

## FROM YOUR EDITOR, by Mary Sinker (photo of Evening Grosbeaks, Mary Sinker)

When we last signed off for the summer, in the midst of a global pandemic and with spring migration well underway, many of us were trying to sort out how we might be able to safely bird outside our own backyards. Thankfully, our public lands were beginning to open, and they've remained open so we have been able to safely venture out to find some of our summer birds and to check up on our year-round residents who are also raising their young. Warblers, tanagers and Evening and Black-headed Grosbeaks are just a few of our colorful summer visitors.



Now as the days begin to shorten, our summer visitors are finishing up parenting duties in preparation for the journey southward. Some of our spring migrants have already returned from the north – I saw the first Greater Yellowlegs at Hayton just after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July – and more shorebirds are arriving daily. In recent days a flock estimated at 1,000 Western Sandpipers was feeding at Hayton, and Wiley Slough has been hosting Long-billed Dowitchers, Least Sandpipers, Western Sandpipers, and both Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs.

If spring migration offers the promise of the next generation, fall migration fulfills that promise as juvenile birds drop in to rest and feed. Some of these birds travel thousands of miles using navigational methods not yet fully understood by scientists. For birders, these are exciting times and an unexpected or rare visitor is always possible. We are still in the midst of a global pandemic but our public lands are open and birding is an activity that can be enjoyed with the appropriate precautions and social distancing. The birds are here and more are on the way!

## CONSERVATION, by Tim Manns

There was no summer pause in the administration's rollback of environmental regulations. Weakening application of the National Environmental Policy Act to exclude considering cumulative effects and global warming and to limit public comment on major federal projects was a very significant blow. Here in Washington, Secretary of the Interior Bernhardt halted work on the environmental impact statement begun in 2014 for restoring grizzly bears to the North Cascades, completely reversing his Republican predecessor's decision. More than 130,000 public comments in favor of restoration had no weight in comparison with the opposition of eastern Washington Congressman Newhouse and his supporters. There are many more examples of setbacks cutting to the heart of the Audubon mission.

But all is not gloom and doom. Election year deals can cut the other way too. Colorado Senator Cory Gardner and Montana Senator Steve Daines, both Republicans concerned about their reelection, persuaded the President to sign the Great American Outdoors Act on August 4<sup>th</sup>. This bipartisan bill, introduced in the House by Representative John Lewis and for which our own Senator Maria Cantwell deserves much credit, passed House and Senate with veto-proof majorities. The bill provides permanent full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which since 1964 has used offshore oil and gas lease money to buy local, state, and federal park land. The new bill eliminates the need for annual appropriations for this fund, which in many years were far below the authorized \$900 million. It also dedicates funds to address the huge backlog of infrastructure repairs in national parks and on other nationally-owned lands.



Another positive example of how things can go even in these dark days was the August 20<sup>th</sup> decision by Judge Valerie Caproni of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. Judge Caproni negated the administration's attempt to severely weaken application of the 102-year old Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). National Audubon joined other conservation groups and states bringing suit. Since 2017 the administration has been trying to exempt non-deliberate injuries to birds from this act. Under this interpretation, the estimated million birds killed by the 2010 Deepwater Horizon spill would have resulted in no penalty to BP. Here in Skagit County, Puget Sound Energy would not have to equip powerlines with devices to warn away swans. To ensure that inadvertent as well as deliberate injury to birds continues to be covered by the law Representative Lowenthal and 18 bipartisan original co-sponsors have introduced the Migratory Bird Protection Act (H.R. 5552). For more on this and to add your support: <https://www.audubon.org/news/a-new-bill-aims-counter-rollback-bedrock-bird-law>. For over a century, the MBTA has been the most important law protecting birds in the U.S. We need this additional legislation to cement that protection for all time.

At every level of government this November's ballot will include candidates with distinctly different stands on crucial environmental issues such as climate change. It's essential to stop the rollback of what has been accomplished over the last many decades and to stop ignoring the very serious challenges we now face.

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**FALL MIGRATION IS HERE** and to help birders get the most shorebird buck out of the tides at Hayton Reserve, we are reprinting Neil O'Hara's suggestions for finding the best tide times to visit Hayton, a local hotspot in Conway, for migrating shorebirds. Shorebirds are picky eaters that forage on tidal mudflats close to the water's edge. The basin begins to fill up on an incoming tide when the Swinomish Channel tide marker exceeds 5 feet, but by the time it reaches 8 feet most shorebirds have left until the water recedes. Plan your visit with this website: <https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noaatidepredictions.html?id=9448558&legacy=1>

Scroll down to change both dates to the day you wish to visit and click the blue Plot Daily button. The sweet spot is probably 6 ft. to 7.5 ft. water at the tide marker, so pick your arrival time with that in mind. One final tip: the higher the water the closer the birds are likely to be, but a scope always helps at Hayton. Happy birding!

## Skagit Audubon Field Notes by Pam Pritzl

This column reports submitted sightings. For help with rare sightings or locations, please contact [birdsightings@skagitaudubon.org](mailto:birdsightings@skagitaudubon.org). For recent updates, check out **ABA Tweeters** and **Skagit County Ebird List** on the SAS website (Birding Menu, Bird Sightings submenu). Please submit your sightings to [birdsightings@skagitaudubon.org](mailto:birdsightings@skagitaudubon.org).

### WATERFOWL

**Hooded Merganser** 2 in Edison on 8-4 (JB)

### GALLINACEOUS BIRDS

**California Quail** pair with 11 young at east Fidalgo home on 7-19 (RW)

**White-tailed Ptarmigan** 7 (hen & 6 chicks) on Sahale Arm on 8-2 (GB)

**Sooty Grouse** 1 on Sauk Mt, Trail on 7-21 (NOH)

### GREBES

**Red-necked Grebe** 2 at SIPB on 8-13 (GB)

### PIGEONS and DOVES

**Band-tailed Pigeon** 1 at SWAWS on 8-11 (NOH)

### NIGHTHAWKS

**Common Nighthawk** 2 in Anacortes on 6-30 (KN)

### HUMMINGBIRDS

**Black-chinned Hummingbird** 1 at Healy Road 5/29-6/5 (GB) rare

### RAILS and COOTS

**Virginia Rail** 2 at Fox Rd (near Clear Lake) on 7-16 (NOH);

2 on 7-23 & 1 on 8-1 at SWAWS (NOH)

### STILTS and AVOCETS

**Black-necked Stilt** 1 at Leque Island (found by Pam Myers) on 7-4 (PP) rare on west side

### OYSTERCATCHERS

**Black Oystercatcher** 4 on 7-13 and 4 on 7-27 at Rosario Beach (NOH)

### PLOVERS

**Black-bellied Plover** 12 on 7-14, 25 on 7-18, 13 on 8-4 & 1 on 8-7 at SWAHR (NOH)

**American Golden-Plover** 1 at SWAHR on 6-10 (GB)

**Pacific Golden-Plover** 1 at SWAHR on 8-4 (NOH)

**Semipalmated Plover** 8 on 7-14, 20 on 7-18, 12 on 7-29, 4 on 8-4 & 15 on 8-7 at SWAHR (NOH); 21 on 7-20 & 10 on 7-23 at SWAWS (NOH)

### SANDPIPERS and ALLIES

**Long-billed Curlew** 1 at SWAHR on 7-6 (GB)

**Marbled Godwit** 1 at SWAHR on 5-23 (GB)

**Red Knot** 3 at SWAHR on 5-23 (GB)

**Least Sandpiper** many at Edison on 8-4 (JB)

**Pectoral Sandpiper** 1 at Leque Island on 5-4 (PP); 1 at SWAWS on 7-19 (GB); 4 on 8-1 & 3 on 8-9 at SWAWS (NOH); 1 at SWAHR on 8-4 (NOH)

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** 1 at SWAWS on 7-23; 3 at Channel Dr. on 7-25 and 3 at SWAHR on 7-29 (NOH)

**Western Sandpiper** 300 at SWAWS on 8-1 (MS, JS); many at Edison on 8-4 (JB)

**Long-billed Dowitcher** 100 at SWAWS on 8-1 (MS, JS)

**Spotted Sandpiper** 1 AT SWAWS on 7-20 and 2 at Channel Dr. on 8-3 (NOH)

### JAEGERS

**Parasitic Jaeger** 3 at Iverson spit, Camano Island on 5-4 (PP); 1 at WA Park, Anacortes on 7-27 (GB)

### ALCIDS

**Marbled Murrelet** 2 at Green Point, WA Park, Anacortes on 7-15 (PP); 2 at Green Point, WA Park, Anacortes on 8-4 (JB)

**Rhinoceros Auklet** 6 at Green Point, WA Park, Anacortes on 7-15 (PP); 2 at Rosario Beach on 7-27 (NOH)

### GULLS and TERNs

**Mew Gull** 1 at Green Point, WA Park, Anacortes on 8-4 (JB)

**California Gull** 6 at SHIP on 7-22 (NOH)

### PELICANS

**American White Pelican** 58 (continuing throughout sighting period) at March Point on 6-30 (GB); 100 at March Point on 7-26 (MS, JS)

### HERONS and ALLIES

**American Bittern** 2 at NSRA on 7-10 (NOH)

**Great Egret** 1 at SWAHR on 8-6 (GB); 1 at SWAHR on 8-7 (NOH)

**Green Heron** 1 in Burlington on 6-7 (GB); 1 at SWAWS on 8-8 (MS, JS)

*Field sightings continued on Pg. 5*

*Field sightings continued from Pg. 4*

#### **VULTURES**

**Turkey Vulture** 1 at NSRA on 7-10 & 1 at SWAWS on 8-11 (NOH)

#### **HAWKS, EAGLES and ALLIES**

**Golden Eagle** 1 at Sahale Arm on 8-2 (GB)

#### **WOODPECKERS**

**American Three-toed Woodpecker** 1 at Swamp Creek on 5-28 (GB)

#### **FALCONS**

**Merlin** 1 at NSRA on 7-10, 1 at SWAWS on 8-1 & 8-9 (NOH)

**Peregrine Falcon** 1 at Channel Dr. on 8-3 and 1 at SWAWS on 8-11 (NOH)

#### **FLYCATCHERS**

**Western Wood-Pewee** 1 on Fox Rd. (near Clear Lake) on 7-16 & 1 on 7-20 & 8-1 at SWAWS (NOH)

**Willow Flycatcher** heard at east Fidalgo home on 5-29 (RW); 2 on 7-6, 1 on 7-18, 1 on 7-23, 2 on 8-1, 2 on 8-9 & 1 on 8-11 at SWAWS (NOH); 2 on 7-25, 1 on 8-3 & 1 on 8-7 at Channel Dr. (NOH)

**Least Flycatcher** 1 in Hamilton on 7-15 & 16 (GB) **rare on west side**

**Black Phoebe** 5 on 7-6, 1 on 7-18, 2 on 8-9 & 1 on 8-11 at SWAWS (NOH)

**Eastern Phoebe** 1 (found by Adrian Lee) on Martin Rd on 5-17 (GB) **rare**

#### **SHRIKES**

**Northern Shrike** 1 at Healy Rd until 5-16 (GB) **late**

**Loggerhead Shrike** 1 at SWAHR on 6-10 (GB) **unusual on west side**

#### **CORVIDS**

**Black-billed Magpie** 1 at Cabana Park, Anacortes on 6-6 (KG) **rare on west side**

#### **LARKS**

**Horned Lark** 1 at Iverson Spit, Camano Island on 8-1 (PP) **unusual on west side**

#### **SWALLOWS**

**Purple Martin** 2 at Barnaby Slough on 6-12, 1 at SWAWS on 6-26 and 3 at Fox Rd (near Clear Lake) on 7-6 (GB)

#### **TANAGERS and ALLIES**

**Lazuli Bunting** 3 at NSRA on 7-10 (NOH)

**Bank Swallow** 20 at new colony in Lyman on 5-27 (GB); 1 at Channel Dr. on 8-7 (NOH)

#### **CHICKADEES**

**Mountain Chickadee** 1 at Cutthroat Pass on 7-10 (GB)

#### **THRUSHES**

**Townsend's Solitaire** 1 on Sauk Mt. Trail on 7-21 (NOH)

**Varied Thrush** 1 on Sauk Mt. Trail on 7-21 (NOH)

#### **CATBIRDS**

**Gray Catbird** 1 (found by Adrian Lee) on Martin Rd on 6-16 (GB)

#### **FINCHES and ALLIES**

**Evening Grosbeak** 2 at east Fidalgo home on 5-29 (RW)

**Red Crossbill** pair at east Fidalgo home (eating bolted lettuce seeds) on 7-6 (RW); 2 at Rosario Beach on 7-27 (NOH)

#### **LONGSPURS and BUNTINGS**

**Indigo Bunting** 1 at Sauk Prairie on 5-24 (GB) **rare**

#### **SPARROWS and ALLIES**

**Clay-colored Sparrow** 1 at Corkindale on 6-5 (GB) **rare**

**Brewer's Sparrow** 1 at Healy Rd on 6-14 (GB) **unusual on west side**

**Black-throated Sparrow** 1 at Fox Rd (near Clear Lake) on 6-10 (GB) **rare**

#### **CHAT**

**Yellow-breasted Chat** 2 or more at Milepost 76 (Highway 20) fields from 7-4 through 7-19 (GB)

#### **WARBLERS**

**Orange-crowned Warbler** 1 in Edison on 8-4 (JB)

**American Redstart** 1 at Marblemount boat launch on 6-28 (GB)

**Chestnut-sided Warbler** 1 (found by Adrian Lee) on Martin Rd. on 6-16 and 1 at Marblemount boat launch on 6-28 (GB) **rare**

**Wilson's Warbler** 2 at east Stanwood home on 8-9 (MS)

*Field sightings continued on Pg. 6*



*Field sightings continued from Pg. 5*

(GB) Gary Bletsch; (JB) Joan Bird; (KG) Kathy Graves; (KN) Kim Nelson; (NOH) Neil O'Hara; (NSRA) Northern State Recreation Area; (PP) Pam Pritzl; (SHIP) Ship Harbor Interpretive Preserve;

(SIPB) Samish Island Public Beach; (JS) Jeff Sinker; (MS) Mary Sinker; (SWAHR) Skagit Wildlife Area Hayton Reserve; (SWAWS) Skagit Wildlife Area Wylie Slough; (RW) Regan Weeks

## **KATHRYN HALE AWARDED INAUGURAL SKAGIT AUDUBON SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP THROUGH SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE**

May 21, 2020

Dear Skagit Audubon Society,

As a recipient of the Skagit Audubon Society Environmental Conservation Scholarship, I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart. Because of your generous contribution, I will be able to pursue a Bachelor's of Applied Science in Environmental Conservation at Skagit Valley College.

I have chosen this program because I believe it will equip me to find a position where I can help preserve important ecosystems in the Pacific Northwest. I believe that an important component of preservation is community involvement, and I look for any opportunity to share the beauty and wonders of the natural sciences with my community.

As a single parent, earning this degree seemed like a pipe-dream for a long time. But I have had the privilege of setting an example for my daughter as I have pursued this dream. She has watched me struggle to reach my goals, and she will grow up knowing that she can meet any goal if she is willing to put in the hard work for it. When I decided to come back to school, I set a goal to earn an Associate's degree from the Environmental Conservation program at Skagit Valley College. I have encountered numerous challenges, but with a lot of hard work and a strong support system, I will be completing an Associate's of Applied Science in Environmental Conservation at the conclusion of Summer quarter this year. This goal has become an important stepping stone to my fully realized goal of completing my 4-year degree. I look forward to going out into my community equipped with the crucial education I am receiving at Skagit Valley College.

I am truly humbled to receive this award. Your contribution has made a difference in my life that goes above and beyond any measurable value. Thank you.

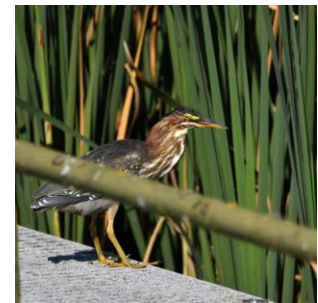
Sincerely,  
Kathryn Hale

## **WHO'S NEW AT WILEY SLOUGH?** The answer is a Green Heron!

Actually, two have been spotted and photographed, one adult and one juvenile. Green Herons are solitary fishermen who can be close by and invisible at the same time. Foraging amongst thick vegetation in creeks, marshes, ponds and similar habitats, they feed both day and night. Shorter and stockier than other long-legged wading birds, Green Herons prefer shallow water and have been known to drop a twig or a feather into the water to scare up a potential meal.

Males choose a secluded nest site, usually near water, and start construction before selecting a mate. The female finishes the nest and the pair will typically raise 1-2 broods of 3-5 chicks each. That's a lot of mouths to feed! Green Herons are usually solitary nesters and both parents care for the young, who may remain with their parents for a month or more after they fledge.

Habitat loss is likely the biggest threat to their population that has declined over most parts of their range. Using the Pacific Flyway, our Wiley Slough visitors will head south for the winter to northern California or perhaps farther south into Mexico or Central America. Learn more: [www.allaboutbirds.org](http://www.allaboutbirds.org) and [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org). Photo by Mary Sinker.



## JUNE ELECTION RESULTS

– thank you to everyone who made our first-ever vote by mail and vote online election possible. Listed below are the election results. The Nominating Committee is currently recruiting someone to fill the role of Secretary.



## ABOUT SKAGIT AUDUBON

– Skagit Audubon Society is a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Our mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity. General membership meetings are held at the Padilla Bay Interpretive Center, 10441 Bayview- Rd., Mt. Vernon on the second Tuesday of each month, September through June. Social/7:00 pm and Program/7:30 pm. The board of directors meets at the same location the first Tuesday of each month, September through June, at 7:00 pm.

Skagit Audubon membership provides a local chapter affiliation and newsletter, *The Skagit Flyer*, for individuals who want all their funds to benefit their local chapter. *The Skagit Flyer* is produced monthly from September through June and full color issues are available at: [www.skagitaudubon.org/newsletter](http://www.skagitaudubon.org/newsletter). Unless noted, all images, drawings, clip art, etc. appearing in *The Skagit Flyer* are in the public domain. We reserve the right to edit.

### Board of Directors - Officers

President:	Jeff Osmundson.....president@skagitaudubon.org
Vice President:	Denny Quirk.....denny@skagitaudubon.org
Secretary:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Neil O'Hara.....treasurer@skagitaudubon.org...781-290-9083
Immediate Past President:	Vacant

### Board of Directors - Committee Chairs and Representatives

Conservation:	Tim Manns.....conservation@skagitaudubon.org.....360-333-8985
Education:	Sheila Pera.....skagiteducation2@gmail.com
	Kim Nelson....kimn@skagitaudubon.org
Field Trips:	Libby Mills.....libbymills@gmail.com.....360-757-4139
Finance:	Phil Wright.....phil@skagitaudubon.org.....360-299-8212
Hikes:	Joan Melcher.....jdmelcher@comcast.net.....360-424-0407
Membership:	Pam Pritzl.....membership@skagitaudubon.org
Programs:	Carla Helm.....programs@skagitaudubon.org
Publications:	Mary Sinker.....publications@skagitaudubon.org
Representative:	Alan Brewer.....alanbre@live.com
Representative:	Alice Turner.....alicet2@msn.com
Representative:	Ann Skinner.....anns@skagitaudubon.org
Representative:	Don Jonasson.....donjonasson@hotmail.com.....360-299-1415
Representative:	Jane Brandt.....janeb@skagitaudubon.org
Representative:	Jeff Ernst.....jeff.ernst26@icloud.com
Representative:	Katherine O'Hara.....katherineoh@skagitaudubon.org

### Other Volunteers

Bird Sightings:	Pam Pritzl.....birdsightings@skagitaudubon.org.....360-387-7024
Hospitality:	Pamelia Maxwell
Newsletter Distribution:	John Edison
Webmaster:	Ron Pera.....skagitaudubon@gmail.com

## FALL GARDENING TIP

– It's hard to believe, but fall is just around the corner. Are you planning to add some new plants or shrubs to attract birds and other pollinators? Fall is a great time to settle in new plants now that the weather has cooled and rain provides consistent moisture. Fall also means leaves! Leaves on the ground are important for bugs, beetles, caterpillars and other insects that have either laid eggs or will overwinter themselves in a cozy bed of leaves. Please **Leave the Leaves** whenever possible. Leaves on pathways can be raked or blown onto garden beds or brush borders. Leaves on a lawn can be mulched with a mower. Birds find many goodies to eat in the leaves during fall, winter and early spring. Birds and other pollinators will thank you!



**SKAGIT AUDUBON SOCIETY  
PO BOX 1101  
MOUNT VERNON, WA 98273**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Skagit Audubon Society Membership Form**

Membership: \_\_\_\_ \$20/one year **OR** \_\_\_\_ \$40/two years \* \* \* \_\_\_\_ New **OR** \_\_\_\_ Renewal

Additionally, I wish to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Skagit Audubon Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Please designate my donation to: \_\_\_\_ General \_\_\_\_ Education \_\_\_\_ Scholarship Fund  
Donors of \$100 or more receive a personal field trip by a Skagit Audubon field trip leader.

Mail form and payment to: **Skagit Audubon Society, P.O. Box 1101, Mt. Vernon WA 98273-1101**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*By providing your email address and those of any household members, you/they consent to SAS's use of electronic transmission, such as email and website postings, for notices about SAS business. You may revoke this consent at any time on written request to the Secretary of SAS.*

Membership includes those members of your household whose names & emails you provide to us:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*(If you have more than one additional member of your household who wishes to become a member of SAS, please provide their name(s) and email address(es) to [membership@skagitaudubon.org](mailto:membership@skagitaudubon.org))*

I want to be involved in (check all that apply): Education \_\_\_\_ Conservation \_\_\_\_ Field Trips \_\_\_\_ Hiking \_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_

(To join National Audubon Society, a separate membership, please visit: [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org))