

Admiralty Audubon Pippings AAS Birding for July & August 2023

July 2023

Third Saturday at Anderson Lake State Park
Saturday, 15 July 2023
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Meet at 8:30 AM at the parking area straight down the dirt road just beyond the meadows. Discover Pass required for parking. You must contact leader Beverly McNeil to register: bevybirds53@gmail.com. The group size is limited to 5. If the weather is bad we may cancel. Bring binoculars and water, if desired. Distance is 1.5 miles and time of outing is usually 3 to 4 hours. We normally go around the whole lake on Trail B, Anderson Lake State Park. Wear sturdy shoes and layered clothing for changeable weather. Please avoid wearing bright clothing.

August 2023

Third Saturday at Anderson Lake State Park
Saturday, 19 August 2023
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Meet at 8:30 AM at the parking area straight down the dirt road just beyond the meadows. Discover Pass required for parking. You must contact leader Beverly McNeil to register: bevybirds53@gmail.com. The group size is limited to 5. If the weather is bad we may cancel. Bring binoculars and water, if desired. Distance is 1.5 miles and time of outing is usually 3 to 4 hours. We normally go around the whole lake on Trail B, Anderson Lake State Park. Wear sturdy shoes and layered clothing for changeable weather. Please avoid wearing bright clothing.

Betty Renkor

Admiralty Audubon Field Trips Chair



© Varn Brooks

photos: left - Townsend's Solitaire feeding on juniper berries at Cape George; February 2023; top right - Barn Swallow fledgling, North Beach, June 2023; bottom - Willow Flycatcher, Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park, May 2023.



© Tracy LeMoine



© Wendy Feltham

Outside In

Photography By Brian Goodman And Kerry Tremain

Sculptures By Tom Jay And Sara Mall Johani

Jeanette Best Gallery, Port Townsend, Washington

June 29–August 27, 2023

OUTSIDE IN combines multiyear projects by four artists. Kerry Tremain’s Aves is a selection of his evocative photographs of birds over the past five years. The Solace of Space by Brian Goodman imaginatively recasts traditional landscapes to create visual spaces for comfort and wonder. Tom Jay (1943-2019) and Sara Mall Johani launched a new bronze sculpting tradition in the Northwest and pioneered art-inspired salmon restoration projects. These artists traverse the boundary between description and suggestion, keenly aware that our views of flora, fauna, and the landscape itself are shaped by myths, stories, and images over millennia of co-evolution. They bring the outside in,

recognizing and appreciating our storied connections to the natural world at a time when modern patterns of life often disrupt and alienate them. More information available at kerrytremain.com/outsidein.

Kerry has included an opportunity for Rick Jahnke, Admiralty Audubon Chapter President, to give a presentation sometime in August, tentatively entitled: **History of Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park: How a Controversy Became a Legacy**. We will send out an email notice and post on our facebook page when we have a date and time.



© Kerry Tremain

Neah Bay Doves

Elevated Art Update for 2023

The Elevated Art show will run through July. This year’s theme is NATURE. Don’t miss the opportunity to see nature art by our chapter photographers! Please contact the curator, Tracy, at tracylemoine@msn.com more information.



© James Holb

photo left: Cedar Waxwing, Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park, June 2023; right: Yellow Warbler, Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park, May 2023.



© Wendy Feltham

Supporting Our Partners

The Admiralty Audubon Board voted to make a modest contribution to the capital campaign of our neighbor Dungeness River Nature Center in recognition of their efforts for our whole peninsula region. You will find our chapter listed on their Recognition Wall when you visit their wonderful new facility.

Contribute to Science Through Birding

The Puget Sound Seabird Survey is looking for birders in Jefferson County who might be willing to travel to survey sites in Clallam County to join this established Community Science program. Volunteers are asked to conduct 7 surveys with a small team of fellow surveyors at specific locations. All surveys are synchronized to take place once per month on the first Saturday, October – April. You will be provided training in the survey technique, and ideally will have good seabird identification skills. However, there are roles on the survey team for birders of all levels. Now in its 15th season, you'll be contributing to valuable science that monitors wintering seabirds across Puget Sound and informs important management decisions. Previously, the project was part of Birds Connect Seattle's (formerly Seattle Audubon) science program but transitioned to its new home at Puget Sound Bird Observatory in 2022. More information can be found on our website (<https://www.pugetsoundbirds.org/about-psss>) and if interested in taking part, please reach out!

Toby Ross

Program Manager

t_ross@pugetsoundbirds.org

© Doug Schurman



©Hillary Smith



© Steve Hampton



© James Holb



© BeverlyMcNeil



photos clockwise from top left: Common Loon; Pigeon Guillemots, Port Townsend Marine Science Center pier, April 2022; Bald Eagle, North Beach, April 2023; Red-necked Grebe, Fairbanks AK, June 2023; Heerman's Gulls, Point Hudson, June 2023. All 'seabird' species are counted in PSSS, including raptors that prey on seabirds.



© James Holb



© Wendy Feltham



© Dave Grainger



© Dave Grainger

photos top down: Mallard hen and chicks at Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park, June 2023; Wood Duck hen and chicks at Nisqually NWR, June 2023.

photos top down: American Goldfinch fledgling at Fort Worden, May 2023; Barn Swallows - breakfast chorus of Barn Swallow babies in mud nest hanging against beams at the Nisqually NWR visitor center, June 2023.

AAS Membership Form 2023
<https://admiraltyaudubon.org>

name _____ date _____
 mailing address _____
 city, state, zipcode _____
 email address _____ phone number _____

Would you prefer your newsletter by email? paper copy? amount enclosed \$ _____

Send \$20 annual membership to: **Admiralty Audubon, PO Box 666, Port Townsend WA 98368**
or pay online at the 'Join' link via PayPal or credit card

Membership includes 6 issues of our newsletter per year and the right to vote in chapter elections. Chapter programs and field trips are free to the public. We always welcome donations! Dues and donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Admiralty Audubon is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

The Feather Forecast - July & August 2023

Glorious weather in May created ideal conditions for migrants, both common and rare. In addition to our usual visitors, Jefferson County hosted the following this spring: an American White Pelican, an Eastern Kingbird (2nd county record based on eBird), two Western Kingbirds, a Say's Phoebe, a Black Phoebe (1st county record), a Lesser Goldfinch (1st county record), a Lazuli Bunting, two Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (the first in twenty years or so), a Yellow-headed Blackbird, and two Bullock's Orioles.

Some of these were first detected by ear. Here is where the Merlin app comes in. You can download it for free. Once on your phone, step outside, click "Sound ID" and then click the large microphone. Then, it listens... and tells you what species it is hearing. This is a great tool for learning birds calls and songs, to help train your ear, and eventually to be alert for anything strange or unusual, such as a Least Flycatcher or Red-eyed Vireo. Merlin is not 100% accurate. Like me, it struggles with junco vs. Chipping Sparrow. It also has a propensity to call Townsend's Warblers and Black-throated Gray Warblers "Hermit Warblers," which is very rare here. Most of the birds on Mt. Walker are Townsend's or Townsend's x Hermit hybrids. Nevertheless, Merlin is right most of the time – and when it suggests something unusual, that is your clue to try and find the songster and verify it.

While you're practicing with Merlin, you can take a break and head to the beach. As we head into July and August, it is time for shorebirds and seabirds. No audio needed here. The first fall shorebirds, hurtling south from the Arctic, can show up as early as June 24. Yes, summer is fast up there. The males come through first, followed by the females. Finally, in late July and especially in August, the juveniles migrate south on their own. The best places to look for them are at low tides, particularly at Pt. Hudson, the Fort Flagler Spit, the little pond at Marrowstone Point beyond the outhouse, and East Beach on Marrowstone during minus tides. If Kah Tai Lagoon has a mud fringe, they can be there, too.

August is a great time for seawatching from Pt. Wilson. In addition to the daily commute of hundreds to thousands of Rhinoceros Auklets from Protection Island, there are others to look for. California Gulls, including handsome checkered juveniles, will arrive in early July. Likewise, several hundred handsome Heermann's Gulls, with their smoky bodies, black legs, and red bills (see photo p.3), typically take up residence at Pt. Hudson. Over 95% of the world's population comes from tiny Isla Raza in the Sea of Cortez. If there are any Brown Pelicans around – and they've already been reported this summer – expect Heermann's Gulls to be chasing them, looking for wayward fish scraps.

At Pt. Wilson, you can also hope to get lucky with a Parasitic Jaeger, often zipping into a feeding frenzy of gulls as if they were a falcon. Sometimes, a Tufted Puffin flies by with the Rhinos. I am still waiting for my first Manx Shearwater, Least Storm-Petrel, Sabine's Gull, Brown Booby, and Nazca Booby from the point. These are seen annually off Seattle, usually in August, so I know they must pass Pt. Wilson! Good birding!

Steve Hampton

Admiralty Audubon Conservation & CBC Chair

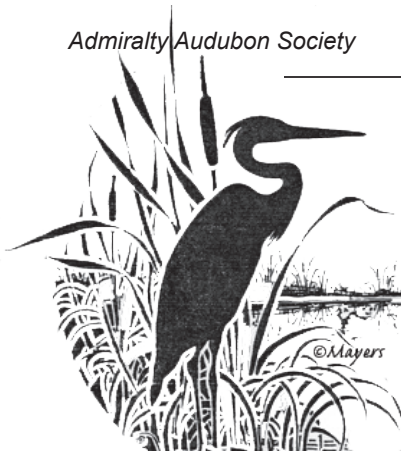


© Steve Hampton

photos - left: solo American White Pelican, Squamish Harbor, June 2023; right: Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Gardiner Beach Road, May 2023.



© John Gatchet



Admiralty Pippings

Admiralty Audubon Society of East Jefferson County
PO Box 666 Port Townsend WA 98368



Warbling Vireo, Discovery Ridge Road, May 2023.

Admiralty Audubon Officers and Board

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Membership Dues and Donation Acknowledgements

A few years ago, Admiralty Audubon moved the annual dues renewal to January. The newsletter is the only item you receive as a member, and the electronic version is freely available. The IRS does not consider a newsletter to have any value, so your dues are a donation along with any additional donation you may offer.

If you want a donation receipt for tax purposes, please contact our chapter Secretary Ron Sikes at b1rdbrush@gmail.com and he will provide you with a donation acknowledgement. The IRS does not require an acknowledgement for amounts less than \$250. Thank you for your support!