October 18th General Meeting Program • 7:00pm:
Forest Wildlife, Stewardship—
Plus a Few Songs

Presenter: Ken Bevis

Ken Bevis is the Stewardship Biologist for the Washington Department of Natural Resource’s (DNR) Small Forest Landowner office. Ken is a lifelong hiker, hunter, fisherman, skier, bird watcher and avid naturalist. Originally from Virginia, he has lived in Washington since 1986, and has held a variety of positions in natural resource management including; the Forest Service, Yakama Indian Nation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (15 years) and now, DNR. Ken has a BS in Forestry and Wildlife from Virginia Tech (1979), and a Masters of Biology from Central Washington University (1994), where he studied Cavity Nesting Birds in three eastern Washington forest types. He now helps landowners learn how to manage small private forest lands for wildlife on their property. He makes frequent presentations for workshops, classes, Washington State University Extension programs, and is a talented singer/guitar player. He continues to be fascinated with dead trees, and works daily on finding humor in everything.

At CWU, Ken studied “Primary Cavity Excavators in Grand Fir Forests of Washington’s East Cascades.” A copy is available at the CWU library for check out.

Ken is also a Kittitas Audubon Alumni, a former president and board member. He worked with Hal Lindstrom and ALPS, helping to protect Silver Creek way back in the 20th century.

Ken Bevis, Statewide Forest Landowner Assistance Fish and Wildlife Biologist, DNR SE Region Office, 713 Bowers Road, Ellensburg, WA 98926.

E-mail: Ken.Bevis@dnr.wa.gov
Phone: 360-489-4802
Board Notes

By Gloria Baldi

Following is a summary of the September 6th Board meeting.

- Hummingbirds are seen less often, but Mountain Chickadees have returned to the upper county.
- Both Secretary’s and Treasurer’s reports were accepted.
- Member Dick Carkner was present to ask for support of a resolution from the Washington State Audubon Conservation Committee (WSACC) to join Washington Audubon and other statewide organizations in coordinated efforts to: (1) increase the state budget for WDFW for biennium 2019-2020; and (2) identify permanent long-term funding to replace the declining funding from hunting and fishing licenses. Doing so would help support the WDFW mission to conserve all Washington lands and habitats. Eleven points were discussed and suggestions made, after which the Board had a consensus of support. The resolution will be a conservation topic at the ACOW (Audubon Conference of WA) on October 12th and 13th. Dick also agreed to contact our 13th District Representative to determine his views, and to report on actions KAS could possibly participate.

- Newsletter: Kris Kaylor was complemented on her first issue as editor and asks for written contributions from all members. (Note our new KAS logo!)

- Programs: KAS needs a volunteer! All but two months of our 2018/19 programs are scheduled, but a Program Chairman is needed to coordinate the tasks involved to make the process run smoothly. (Are you that person?)

- Conservation: Norm Peck reported designs of the new shooting range in the Wenas are forthcoming and feedback will be needed on the first draft of the plan.

- Norm also reported the Hydraulic Code Implementation Citizens Advisory Group is providing suggestions on suction dredging to WDFW with the intent to reduce disturbance/pollution to streams.

Funds For Scholarships!!

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS!! Thanks to so many generous members, the Scholarship plea now totals $505.00, more than half way to the total of $1000. This will keep the amount to two $2500 scholarships for two students at CWU. If you wish to add monies, no matter the amount, please mail to KAS, P.O. 1443, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Please designate ‘Scholarship’ on the check.

Thank you ever so much! Gloria Baldi, Scholarship Chair
September 6th Board meeting cont.

Janet Nelson reported on the Wild Horse Wind Farm Technical Advisory Group. The first wildfire on the facility on July 2, 2018, was two acres and quickly extinguished. Cause is unknown but there had been lightning strikes in the area. Tasks by PSE implemented to enhance habitat for Sage Grouse and cattle include removal of six miles of damaging fence, installing fence tag marking on 20 acres of habitat, redevelopment of a springs with vegetation, noxious weed control program, and continuing to develop a plan with US Fish and Wildlife to eliminate fatalities of Golden Eagles (four at this time).

Climate Change: Barry Brunson and Meghan Anderson have been working with Our Environment members for the ‘Rise to Climate’ event that is (was) held on September 8th. Two subjects presented were the long range effects of plastics, and information on Initiative 1631 (the carbon pollution fee).

Meghan had a LTE tying air pollution to climate change.

Judy Hallisey was interviewed for a documentary through Washington Women Climate Action Network WA Women CAN).

Next meeting is October 4th at 4:30. Do join us!

Shutter Bug

from the Editor

Are You Receiving Your Hooter?

Please email me at kaylormade@me.com if you are not receiving the e-Hooter notice or printed Hooter.

There is a possibility that the email is ending up in your junk mail or is being blocked by your email provider.

WHO WHO! WE NEED YOU!

KAS is looking for an enthusiastic person to fill this board position:

Program Chair

Please email Judy Hallisey: hydrojude@gmail.com if you are interested.

Audubon Council of Washington (ACOW)

Annual meeting of Audubon chapters in WA state

Saturday, October 13, 2018
9:00am-4:30pm Woodinville, Washington

A day of inspiring speakers, informed discussion, shared best practices, and celebrating birds and people. Hosted by Audubon Chapters in King County: Eastside Audubon Society, Rainier Audubon Society, Seattle Audubon Society, and Vashon-Maury Island Audubon Society.

For more information and registration, visit:
http://wa.audubon.org/events/audubon-council-washington-1
KAS Annual Picnic August 16, 2018

Photos courtesy of Nancy Hultquist

Thank you to everyone who attended—see ya’ll next year!

To see all of Nancy’s picnic photos, visit: https://photos.app.goo.gl/L5fAciBmKurUYUABA

Share Your Stories and Photos!

Submissions from readers are most welcome and encouraged!

The editor reserves the right to edit for space, grammar, and/or suitability. Email text and/or photos to: kaylormade@me.com or mail: Kris Kaylor • Hooter Editor • 3240 W. Dry Creek Rd • Ellensburg, WA 98926

Submissions need to be in by the 20th of the preceding month. The Hooter is published monthly except for July.
September 1st

1st Saturday BirdWalk

Report and photos of Turkey Vultures by Tom Gauron

At the start of the Saturday birdwalk it was 60 degrees. The attendance was sparse, but Ellen joined us, so the intimate group of three had a good day. And between the three of us, we saw a total 24 of birds.

Turkey Vultures, American Crows, European Starlings, Black-capped Chickadees, Belted Kingfisher, Canada Geese, Great Blue Heron, Mourning Doves, (flocks of) Cedar Waxwings, Red-tailed Hawks, Common Merganser, America Robin, Spotted Sandpipers, Warbling Vireo, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, White-tailed Kite, Song Sparrow, House finch, Western Wood-Pewee, Black-billed Magpie, Downy Woodpecker, Steller’s Jay and California Quail.

Most birds attended with their respective groups and many around bushes that provided food.

Join us October 6th for the next First Saturday BirdWalk.

“Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known.” —Sharon Begley

Changes.

Story and photos by Cricket Webb

This time of year, as I witness the changing season, I frequently reflect on the changes in my life. Most recently it’s the Snowbird experience. Don’t know how long or how often we will do this but escaping the cold and the snow has been fun so far. A ripple effect is that I have stopped feeding birds after the fledglings get self-sufficient.

Another change, without feeding the birds, the yard is quieter. I was not sure I liked that but now that fall is kicking in, the migrants are coming through. When my yard is already full of birds, a few more don’t get noticed. This year they are being noticed.

Early in the morning the sun hits the east side of the trees out front and wakes up all the bugs. It is a feeding frenzy of Blue Birds, Pine Siskins, Yellow-rump Warblers and...Wait is that a Dusky flycatcher or a Hammonds. I’ll never know, it was gone in an instant only to be replaced with a couple of Western Tanagers.

I love the changes
During this time of remembering Kittitas Audubon’s history, we pause to introduce Bea Buzzetti, charter member of KAS and former Ellensburg High School science teacher. She passed away in June, 1992, at the age of 94. Bea bequeathed her small residence on Chestnut Street near Capital Avenue to Kittitas Audubon Society. Her yard there was truly a natural preserve because each time Bea made a trip to the nearby mountains or hills she returned with a handful of soil or small plants to distribute in her yard. From those small additions a whole natural area emerged. (Unfortunately, with subsequent owners not tending the habitat, the lot is now bare.)

From 1992 until 1998 the house was rented, with a small group of KAS members performing the building, repair, and cleaning duties each time a renter changed. A decision was made to sell the house and KAS did so in July of 1998. Thus, Bea Buzzetti became the benefactor of Kittitas Audubon. Because of the money from her property, KAS has been able to support environmental issues in support of birds, provide CWU scholarships, and contribute to non-profit groups involved in the monitoring and research of birds. (If you visit EHS, look for the tile on the memory wall in the foyer commemorating Bea.)

So who was Bea Buzzetti?

From the History of Kittitas County, Washington-1989, Vol. I, an article written by Bea gives the following personal details (excerpted for this article).

“I was born December 21, 1897, in Missouri. I came to Ellensburg the fall of 1926, and spent sixteen very happy years teaching sciences in the High School. In 1939 I purchased the corner lot at 102 S Chestnut St, and had a two car garage and living quarters built.

In 1943 I was offered $800.00 more per year than I was getting teaching to open the U.S.O. in the YMCA as its director, so I left teaching. This was interesting work, but most strenuous, as my hours were long and there was much to do. Within less than a year the base moved out and since this would be a part time job, I went to Bremerton, WA, to teach.

However, to me Ellensburg was ‘The Place”, and I knew I would return to retire. In August 1960 I did just that. My retirement years are joyous because my friends are my former students and I see some of them most every day. Then added to this are the class reunions of all the classes to which the teachers are always invited. It is good to see them, to hear of their lives, and to reminisce. I feel I am still reaping the harvest of all those years of teaching.”

Following is from an article written by member Peggy Schnebly shortly after Bea’s death. The entire writing can be found in the March 2011 Hooter.

Bea loved outings of all types, be it on foot, horseback, snowshoes or skis. No kind of weather deterred her. Bea knew where the first buttercups bloomed on the south slopes of the old Vantage Highway, at which milepost the first and largest colony of simpsonii cactus bloomed, when the carpets of pink and lavender phlox were at their peak in the blue-green sage, and where the tiny Calypso orchid hid. She kept detailed records of the exact distances and places and dates so that she knew where and when the flowering and fruiting were taking place. Waptus Trail, Cooper River Trail, Thorp Mountain, the Pacific Crest Trail, all had areas noted of where she had found morels, chanterelles, or the prized Matsutake mushrooms, as well as the best huckleberries and blackberries.
KAS 30 Year Celebration cont.

She could take you over the Wenas Road knowing the exact date (and bush) from which one could witness the high arcing courtship of our tiniest bird—the Calliope Hummingbird. She knew when the Mountain Bluebirds migrated through the Reecer Creek corridor, or the migration of waxwings and grosbeaks through town and knew the yards and very trees that they preferred.

Because she never stopped learning, she never stopped teaching. It delighted her to key out an unknown flower or mushroom brought to her door. Teaching was the love of her life and for many of us she was still doing that at the end of her ninety-fourth year.

*The November Hooter will feature the first decade of KAS history. Remember we would welcome any history moment of KAS, so do not hesitate to send us your memory.* —Gloria B and Gloria L

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**Observing Yard Birds**

*Story by Gloria Baldi.*

**Do you have a hybrid?**

If you are always observing yard birds from the window, you probably notice differences in a marking or color in individuals of the same species. You notice the darker heads of the male Robins and Dark-eyed Juncos, the differences in plumage between the male and female Goldfinch or House Finch. But sometimes that difference is out-of-place.

Two Northern Flickers (red-shafted form in our area), a male and a female, were digging for ants/bugs in our lawn. But the male had not only the red malars, but also a red crescent on the back of his head, which is indicative to the yellow-shafted form. Hybridization, or intergrade, is relatively common in this species. So take a second look at that Flicker; it is a delight to discover a unique individual.

*Photo from The Cornell Lab of Ornithology*

**Did You Know?**

Bluebird populations suffered a significant population decline (on a nationwide basis) before concerned individuals and organizations began putting up nest boxes and creating bluebird trails (series of nest boxes that extends over a distance). When choosing a box, the female bird has final say! Who knew!
What do the University of Wisconsin, and the University of New England (in Maine) have in common? Both have made changes in new buildings that will both reduce energy usage and also protect birds! In one case, the spark came from a campus planner, and in the other, from a faculty member and students who launched a petition campaign (inspired by the documentary film The Messenger, which KAS presented at its Feb 2017 program). For the details, see “How Colleges Are Sparing Birds’ Lives and Conserving Energy”, by Teghan Simonton, in the 14 Sep 2018 Chronicle of Higher Education, at https://tinyurl.com/ycans7ha.

If you didn’t get a chance to see The Messenger, the official trailer is at https://tinyurl.com/h49ryrg.

The days are getting shorter, and so is this issue’s “Climate Communications”. I hope it’s only temporary.

CHE article: https://www.chronicle.com/article/How-Colleges-AreSparing/244214

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Yakima Basin “Wood Fiesta” Helicopter Aquatic Restoration

Hello,

I am writing to inform you of a large scale restoration effort that the Yakama Nation and its partners are implementing this coming fall. The restoration effort is known as the Yakima Basin “Wood Fiesta” Helicopter Aquatic Restoration or just “Wood Fiesta” for short. This effort will entail placing wood via helicopter into seven Yakima River tributaries to improve aquatic habitat for native fish. Project locations include Lick Creek (in the Teanaway), Swauk Creek, NF Manastash Creek, Umtanum Creek, Little Naches River, Little Rattlesnake and Satus Creek. Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group is partnering with the tribe on two of the project locations; NF Manastash and Little Rattlesnake Creeks. There are also several other partners involved in making this large scale restoration possible.

We are trying to get the word out about this work and were hoping to recruit you to help us with this cause. We have a bulletin which we have been posting on sign boards near the project locations. I have attached this document. The bulletin directs users to a website where they can find more detailed information on the project and associated recreational closures during project implementation. The website address is http://yakamafish-nsn.gov/restore/projects/yakima-basin-wood-fiesta

Please feel free to share the bulletin and/or website link in your newsletters and on facebook/web pages to help us get the word out to the public about the work we are doing.

Thank you and feel free to contact me with questions.

Ashton Bunce, Yakama Nation • Fish Habitat Biologist
509-945-2478
**Common Raven**

*Scientific Name: Corvus corax* • *Type: Birds*
*Diet: Omnivores* • *Group Name: Flock*

**Average life span in The Wild: 13 years**

**Size: 24 to 26 in; wingspan, 3.8 to 4.7 ft** • **Weight: 2.3 lbs**

Common ravens are actually rather remarkable animals. These sleek, black birds are excellent and acrobatic fliers on par with falcons and hawks. Such aerial skills are on display during breeding season, when exciting mating rituals include an elaborate dance of chases, dives, and rolls.

### Intelligence and Behavior

These intelligent birds were honored by Native Americans and often portrayed as sly pranksters for their playful nature.

Known as scavengers, ravens are also effective hunters that sometimes use cooperative techniques. Teams of ravens have been known to hunt down game too large for a single bird. They also prey on eggs and nestlings of other birds, such as coastal seabirds, as well as rodents, grains, worms, and insects. Ravens do dine on carrion and sometimes on human garbage.

In winter, common ravens may gather in flocks to forage during the day and to roost at night. During the rest of the year, they are often coupled, or in small groups.

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**Raven Trivia:**

- **Ravens** will tug on eagles’ tail feathers to distract them and steal a bite.
- **A flock of ravens** is called “unkindness.”

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Q: **What kind of math do Snowy Owls like?**

A: **Owlgebra**
Interactive Map:
Tracking the dangerous Hurricane Florence
Hurricanes and their impacts, in particular in depositing seabirds far afield from their normal haunts, represent unique opportunities to understand how animals behave in and respond to serious disturbances. Hurricane Florence is no exception.

3-day Forecast Maps return in the Fall:
BirdCast breaks for summer 2018
Thanks for all the memories! BirdCast automated forecast and live migration maps for Spring 2018 will be deactivated until 1 August 2018 - the last forecast map was published for the night of 31 May 2018, and the last live migration map will post on 15 June 2018. Please check back often for additional comments and posts on the spring 2018 season and the arrival of the farm migration maps on 1 August!

Spotlight on the West
In this short post we highlight tonight’s migration forecast in the West. Conditions are favorable for movements from the Desert Southwest north and west along the Pacific Coast into Washington state.

And much more! Check out http://birdcast.info/

GOT BINOCULARS?
Consider donating a pair (or more) to KAS for their education programs with school classes and local organizations. Contact our Education Chair, Steve Hall for more info. (See page 2)

The Hooter • October 2018 • Kittitas Audubon’s Newsletter
The mission of Kittitas Audubon is to develop an appreciation of nature through education and conservation, with a focus on birds.

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**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

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- **NEW Membership**
- **RENEWING Membership**

**Membership Options:**
- ☐ KAS Individual $20
- ☐ Family $30

**Premium Memberships:**
- ☐ Bluebird $50
- ☐ Kestrel $75
- ☐ Hawk $100
- ☐ Lifetime Individual $300
- ☐ Lifetime Family $500

**Make a Charitable Donation:** (Please enter dollar amount)
- Scholarship Fund $______
- Nest Boxes $______
- Education $______
- General $______

Your generous donation to a specific project is symbolic. Kittitas Audubon is a chapter of National Audubon Society serving the communities of Kittitas County, Washington. Go to [kittitasaudubon.org](http://kittitasaudubon.org) for more information. KAS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

**Please indicate membership preferences below:**
- ☐ YES I want to “Go Green” by receiving the Hooter newsletter online only
- ☐ YES I wish to receive occasional emails related to Audubon activities

**May we print your name** in the Hooter to acknowledge your membership/donation?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

- ☐ GIVE THE GIFT OF KITTITAS AUDUBON!
  Please send gift recipients name, address, email, and phone to address below.

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**GET “THE HOOTER” ONLINE**

Save paper, printing, postage. If you would prefer to receive the electronic version, send your name, mailing address, and email address to: [kittitasaudubon@hotmail.com](mailto:kittitasaudubon@hotmail.com)

Each month, we’ll send you an email with a link to the new Hooter.

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**Mixed Paper Recycling!**

Available locally:
- 804 Elmview Rd, Ellensburg
- 8:00 am-1:30pm M-W
- 509-925-6124

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Thank You for Your Membership!
Phyllis MacPhaiden (Individual)
Gia & Gary Cummisk (Family)

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**Thank You!**

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- 509-925-6124

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Please make checks payable to:
Kittitas Audubon Society
PO Box 1443
Ellensburg WA 98926

THANK YOU!
Mark Your Calendars!

First Saturday
BirdWalks
Irene Rinehart Park on Umptanum Road at 8 AM for a 3-hour walk. Leaders Steve Moore & Jan Demorest.

October 6th
Pumpkin and cornstalk time. Look for some iconic Fall birds among the yellowing leaves, searching out the seeds and berries that will keep them warm and healthy as the weather turns south.

Board Meetings
Meet at 4:30pm at the Methodist Church on the corner of 5th and Ruby

- October 4th
- November 1st

Thursday Programs
Start at 7:00pm • Hal Homes

- October 18th
  Forest Wildlife, Stewardship - plus a few Songs with Ken Bevis

- November 15th
  Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife—Short-eared owls progress report on multi-state survey effort. Joseph Buchanan

THANK YOU!
KITTITAS COUNTY BUSINESS SUPPORTING KAS!

Inland Internet • Roslyn
Donates Internet service for our website: http://www.kittitasaudubon.org

Old Mill Country Store • Ellensburg
Provides a discount on bird seed to KAS members.