All Audubon meetings, held on the 3rd Thursday of each month, 7:00pm, September through May (except December), at the Hal Holmes Center next to the Ellensburg Public Library, are open to the public. Please come and meet with us, and stay afterwards for juice, treats, and conversation.

Many thanks to the Ellensburg Public Library for sponsoring our meetings!

PSE initiated its official Avian Protection Program company-wide in 2000, in response to collaborative talks with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, but had taken avian conservation actions starting as early as 1979 with relocation of osprey nests. Program Biologists strive to reduce the interactions of birds with PSE’s electrical equipment throughout PSE’s service area to improve reliability and protect birds from electrocution and collisions with power lines. This is accomplished through partnerships with State and Federal Wildlife Agencies and Wildlife Rehabilitators, proactive efforts to make PSE’s system avian-safe, best management practices to minimize the effects of construction and vegetation management on nesting birds and habitat, and training throughout the company to educate employees about the importance of protecting avian species. We will learn more about the Avian Protection program, its successes and future challenges, from Haley Olson, the Senior Resource Scientist who is responsible for implementing it.

Jennifer Diaz, Sr. Wind Resource Advisor, is responsible for managing all aspects of the environment and natural resources across 10,000 acres of rangeland and shrub-steppe habitat at the Wild Horse wind farm, and will share details about wildlife conservation there. When constructing the Wild Horse Wind and Solar Facility, Puget Sound Energy (PSE) voluntarily added a conservation easement to safeguard 7,000 acres of shrub-steppe habitat and in partnership with the Trust for Public Lands and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), PSE also preserved 18,000 acres of undeveloped open space, helping to maintain enough wild lands to support elk, mule deer, bobcats, badgers, hawks, sage-grouse, and now wolves!
Board Members

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VICE PRESIDENT
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Jim Briggs .....................509.933.2231
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*SOCIAL GREETER
Kay Forsythe ...............509.925.2356
*CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT
Phil Mattocks

By Gloria Baldi

Actions from the August 1st Board meeting:

- **TWO ANNOUNCEMENTS PRECEDED THE BUSINESS MEETING:**
  - The summer issue of the *National Audubon* magazine has an article on the Sagebrush Songbird Survey featuring several of our local members. It was noted that the online version has more pictures accompanying the article.
  - *Jim Briggs* had an enjoyable article published in the July/August issue of the *Bird Watcher’s Digest* titled “Birding on Safari.”

- **FIELD TRIPS: Steve Moore** has been contacted to help with a winter raptor survey. Participating birders will do regular monthly road surveys.

- **PROGRAMS: Lesley McGalliard** reported she has the 2019-20 year filled with a diversity of interesting speakers and subjects.

- **EDUCATION: Are you the person to fill this position?**

- **CONSERVATION/ WILDLIFE HABITAT:** *Norm Peck* said the Dept. of Ecology is revising its regulation on ecological risk assessments. He has applied to serve on the advisory board and if selected, will be KAS’s official delegate.

  - Suction dredging in streams continues to be an active issue.
  - Permits have been approved for the Wenas Shooting Area construction to begin this fall.
  - *Janet Nelson* reported the Wildhorse Technical Advisory Committee was issued a report on the last 12 months of avian fatalities.

- **CLIMATE CHANGE:** *Barry Brunson* had a ‘Thumbs Up’ in the *Daily Record* complimenting Cle Elum for purchasing an electric vehicle for its public works department.

  - *Meghan Anderson* had a Letter-to-the-Editor of the *Daily Record* in July mentioning CWU needs to incorporate renewable energy in projects and advocates using 1% of construction budgets for solar or wind installations. Meghan also appeared before the Ellensburg School Board to argue for solar installation at schools (no natural gas).

- **ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:** A discussion about adding KAS’s historical files to the Ellensburg Public Library archives ensued. It was decided to do so.

  - A request for a program on birds has been received by retired teachers, and it will be covered.

  - Both an Education and a Publicity Chairman are much needed for KAS!

Join us September 5th at 4:30 where you view behind-the-scenes busy actions of the Board.

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Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud.

— Maya Angelou
A Fond Farewell to Hal and Gloria Lindstrom...

by Gloria Baldi

For 12 years the August KAS picnic has been held at the beautiful park-like yard of Hal and Gloria Lindstrom. But life changes and they are leaving that yard and this desert to enjoy an environment on Puget Sound in Des Moines, WA, with their son.

Hal and Gloria were charter members of KAS in 1988 and have remained active members the entire 30 years of its existence. For approximately fifteen years Hal was Conservation Chair. He could never quit because of his overwhelming concern for the environment. Issues in the 1990’s often (but not always) evolved around forest issues, the overcutting, and the demise of old growth trees where the Spotted Owl numbers were rapidly decreasing. Because he and Gloria had been heavily involved in the establishment of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness designation a decade earlier, he was well versed in politics for protection of forests. Additional issues were the Rabanco Waste Incinerator proposed near the Columbia, wind projects erected in the County, and so many issues with stream and river protection. Later, Hal was Program Coordinator for six years.

When Bea Buzzetti left her house to KAS, Hal and Gloria were two of the industrious members who cleaned and repaired the home as renters recycled though. Ahhh...selling the house was a relief.

Gloria is a photographer and many of her photos document 30 years of activities for KAS. Before computer days she was Membership Chair, sending notices and thank you notes, while keeping track of member information. For five years she was Vice President, and served as President for one more. In 2006 she was Co-chair of the Audubon Conference when all the Washington Audubon groups converged for 3 days in Ellensburg, no small task. Distributing 400 bird books to all elementary schools in the County, and helping with presentations for children were projects in which she was happy to engage. Last year she compiled KAS history for the Hooter, as well as helped with the 30th Anniversary Art Sale this past April. For the past seven years, Gloria has been the KAS Historian, putting 30 years of materials, letters, and newspaper articles in chronological order...now to be deposited in the Ellensburg Public Library archives for permanent protection.

Thirty years of dedication! Kittitas Audubon will definitely miss them as we send them off with our very best wishes!

TOUCAN DO THIS!

KAS is looking for enthusiastic individuals to fill these board positions:

PUBLICITY CHAIR

On the Friday following the Board meeting on first Thursday, the Chair will email KAS general meeting program announcement with pictures (mentioning co-sponsorship with Ellensburg Public Library) to Ellensburg Daily Record. Similarly email the Northern Kittitas County Tribune on the Monday following the Board meeting.

At the discretion of the Chair, any form of publicity may be promoted with consent of the Board.

EDUCATION CHAIR

Promote educational activities in matters pertaining to the purposes of KAS.

HISTORIAN

Keep a record of KAS’s business and events in historical order. This shall include all minutes, programs, newspaper articles, conservation issue data, and any additional items of historical record.

Records collected previously will need temporary storage as items are added.

Please email Judy Hallisey: hydrojude@gmail.com if you are interested.
August 3rd

1st Saturday BirdWalk

Report by Steve Moore

Five walkers from Ellensburg and Moses Lake enjoyed a sunny summer day with many young fledglings recently out of the nest in evidence – especially robins, starlings, pewees and swallows. We saw parents feeding chicks among both Western Wood-pewees and swallows. We counted 20 species but we found that many of the birds, even vocal and often visible ones like Downy Woodpeckers and Yellow Warblers, were more often heard than seen. That meant: sheltering in the brushy background so as not to call attention to their young families. The swallows however were on display, careening over the ponds and river. Our take-home discovery was to distinguish juvenile Northern Rough-winged Swallows from Tree Swallows, all of which were perching on bare branches and waiting for grown-ups to bring food. Both young ones have brown backs and white bellies. The key is to look at the neck and upper breast: the Roughwings have a tan neck whereas the Trees are all white under the chin. Their calls are different too: if you can remember them, that’s a good way to tell all of the swallows apart. Despite high river levels, we also spotted a couple of Spotted Sandpipers cruising the banks; these birds have been with us in the park all season. We’ll look for them next year!

Breakfast for a young rough-winged swallow (photo by Lisa Hansen)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

September 7th • 1st Saturday BirdWalk:
Irene Rinehart Park • Many birds have courted, nested and raised a family; they will be thinking about heading south. But summer’s not over yet! Meet at 8 AM at Irene Rinehart parking lot by the river for a 3 hour walk in the sunshine. Leaders Tom Gauron & Diane Bullock; 509-968-3175.

October 5th • 1st Saturday BirdWalk:
Irene Rinehart Park • Many birds have left for parts south; boreal birds will be heading our way. Soon we’ll be seeing ducks & eagles – and today, maybe Manastash cyclists on the park road (so be careful!). Jan and Steve lead; 509-933-1179 for info.

“Let me encourage you to get up every day and focus on what you do have in life. Be thankful for the blessings of the little things, even when you don’t get what you expect.”

— Victoria Osteen
On August 15th, at Mountain View Park, Kittitas Audubon celebrated another year with the annual BBQ picnic/potluck. About 40 members with family and friends gathered to share food and conversation, and to give recognition to several members for their special contributions to support our Audubon goals. Special guests were Gail Gatton and Teri Anderson from Washington Audubon. Gail thanked our chapter for active participation in the 5-year now-completed Sagebrush Songbird Survey. Teri talked about new goals for campus chapters - CWU will be one of the pilot projects. A good time was had by all and the wind only blew away a few empty paper plates!

NOTICE: items left at the picnic last week: lovely glass salad bowl, nice stainless steel serving spoon, heavy metal trivet with shape of an iris, oven mitt with birdhouse designs.
Without Precedent!

Global warming is causing a multitude of changes in the Earth’s climate, most of it bad. New research allows us to emphasize the word global, because almost all of Earth’s surface has been hotter than any other time in the last 2,000 years. “Such nearly universal warming, occurring in lockstep across the planet, is unique to this era, scientists say. Other well-known cold and warm snaps of the past were in fact regional rather than worldwide.” So says Carolyn Gramling in her article “Current warming is unprecedented” in the 17 Aug 2019 Science News. See https://tinyurl.com/y6b3nqxk (the online version is dated 24 Jul). Equally striking is the fact that temperatures now are rising faster than ever over that same time period. The article contains some nifty graphics, as well as links to the original peer-reviewed research articles in Nature and in Nature Geoscience.

A Distant Problem? Afraid NOT!

“Not so long ago, sea level rise was considered a distant problem, something to deal with a hundred years or more from now. But sea level rise is already lapping at U.S. shores.” This quote, including the clever metaphor, is contained in the article “Boston is taking action to adapt to sea level rise” by Mary Capterton Morton in the 17 Apr 2019 Science News at https://tinyurl.com/y6jdb4mq. The emerging climate crisis confronts eastern WA differently, but even the Puget Sound region faces similar trouble. See the article “Global warming may push Seattle sea level up 3 feet by 2100” by Phuong Le in the 30 Jul 2018 Seattle Times at https://tinyurl.com/y2mfodts.

EV or Not EV?

(With apologies to Shakespeare and Hamlet.) A growing number of auto manufacturers see electric vehicles as a significant part, if not the major part, of their business future. Some of the reasons appear in the article “The Electric Car Comes of Age” by Jonathan Linkov in the Sep 2019 Consumer Reports, at https://tinyurl.com/y698z3af. (The online version includes a correction: federal EV tax credits are subtracted from income tax liability, not just from adjusted gross income, as erroneously stated by an unidentified IRS employee.) The same issue includes “Charging Into the Future,” a statement by CR president Dr Marta Tellado, at https://tinyurl.com/y2ovmsqw.

Hello!

I am reaching out to bird watching and Audubon Society groups in Washington ahead of the release of my children’s picture book later this year.

Kevin’s First Flight is a picture book with a story that is told in rhyme and with beautiful watercolor illustrations. It is a delightful read for kids ages 4-8+

We would appreciate any support from you and/or your organization like sharing this friends, family and other members.

No need for an endorsement, just looking to spread the word about our unique story featuring a northern cardinal.

Our website is https://www.kevinthecardinal.com/. There is a video there that explains our book project a little more.

Thank you!

Warm regards, Noah
Kittitas Audubon Society
MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City ____________________________ State ______ Zip ______
Email (please print) ____________________________
Phone ____________________________

☐ 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 Nation Audubon Society serving the communities of Kittitas County, Washington. Go to 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 recipient’s name, address, email, and phone to address below.

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

THANK YOU!

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

INTERESTED IN BIRD BOXES?
Hand-crafted Bluebird, Kestrel, and Barn Owl Boxes by Tom Gauron
Please contact Tom at 509.968.3175 for more information.

Thank You in Advance for Your Membership!

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Please contact Tom at 509.968.3175 for more information.
Thursday Programs

start again! Join us September 19th!

September 2019 Kittitas Audubon Hooter

Mark Your Calendars!

**First Saturday BirdWalks**

- **Irene Rinehart Park on Umptanum Road at 8 AM for a 3-hour walk**
  - **September 7th**
  - Many birds have courted, nested and raised a family; they will be thinking about heading south. But summer’s not over yet! Meet at 8 AM at Irene Rinehart parking lot by the river for a 3 hour walk in the sunshine. Leaders Tom Gauron & Diane Bullock; 509-968-3175.
  - **October 5th**
  - Many birds have left for parts south; boreal birds will be heading our way. Soon we’ll be seeing ducks & eagles – and today, maybe Manastash cyclists on the park road (so be careful!). Jan and Steve lead; 509-933-1179 for info.

**Board Meeting**

- **Meet at 4:30pm at the Methodist Church on the corner of 3rd and Ruby**
- **September 5th**
- **October 3rd**

**Thursday Programs**

- **Start at 7:00pm • Hal Homes**
- **Thursday, September 19th**
- See front page for all the details!

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**THANK YOU!**

**KITTITAS COUNTY BUSINESS SUPPORTING KAS!**

- **Inland Internet**
  Roslyn
  Donates Internet service for our website: 
  [www.kittitasaudubon.org](http://www.kittitasaudubon.org)

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

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**PO Box 1443**

**Ellensburg, WA 98926**