



Shorelines

Newsletter of the Whidbey Audubon Society
October 2017

Whidbey Audubon Society is dedicated to the understanding, appreciation and conservation of birds, other wildlife and their habitats on Whidbey Island and in surrounding waters.

Whidbey Audubon Society Meets Thursday, October 12 in Coupeville Shedding Light on the Role of Dark

The daily rhythm of light and dark has been the cycle on which all life depends for billions of years. As human civilization has increased, this cycle has been disrupted by artificial lighting.

Our October program will address the possible negative consequences of too much and incorrect outdoor lighting and what is being done both locally and globally to address these issues.

Three knowledgeable advocates share their knowledge and



Joann and Joe Quintana are active members of the International Dark-Sky Association. They care for a bird-filled wetland next to their home on the Useless Bay Golf Course.

remaining safe at night. The Quintanas hope to generate support for making Langley an official dark-sky community and were instrumental to the City of Langley's decision to scale back its light-emitting diode (LED) street lighting to conform to dark-sky principles. They have a digital presentation to illustrate the effects of light pollution and show examples of dark-sky light-

thoughts. Joe and Joann Quintana are active members of the *International Dark-Sky Association*. As volunteers they work to educate Whidbey residents about light pollution and how they can decrease light pollution while re-

ing that minimizes the harm of light pollution.

Jay Adams is an active birder from Coupeville. He became particularly interested in the



Jay Adams has concerns about Coupeville's new lighting.

Coupeville's plan to the attention of the Whidbey Audubon Society Board and urged its support. Since then and with the new lamps installed, he has noticed that they only address part of the light at night problem. He will summarize some of the not-so-dark skies effects on wildlife and suggest other steps that might be taken to reduce stray and unnecessary night lighting.



2015/08/US-From-Space-NASA-Earth-Observatory.jpg

Night lights of United States as photographed from space dramatically illuminate the extent of light pollution.

Join Us!
Thursday evening
October 12
Coupeville
Recreation Hall
901 NW Alexander Street
7:00 socializing
(donations for snacks welcome)
7:15 brief meeting
7:30 program begins

Upcoming Field Trips

Tuesday, October 17: BIRDING AT WHATCOM FALLS PARK IN BELLINGHAM. Join us for a trip to Whatcom Falls Park, #58 on the North Cascade Bird Trail map. To car-pool, meet at the Freeland Park & Ride at Trinity Lutheran Church at 7:30 a.m. or at 8:15 a.m. at the Windjammer Park in Oak Harbor (City Beach). Bring a lunch. Whatcom Falls Park in Bellingham has easy trails with some steps between trails. We

will see forest birds, hopefully dippers, waders, ducks and waterfalls. No dogs, please. Call Susan Bennett at 360-331-4779 to register. There is no limit to participants for this trip.

Saturday, October 28: EXPLORE DEER LAGOON. Let's welcome back our winter migrants to Deer Lagoon and enjoy

Upcoming Field Trips, see page 3

Conservation Column:

An Abundance of Land Open to the Public on Whidbey

Whidbey Island residents have many outdoor recreation choices:

- Island County owns or manages scores of parks and recreation areas and public accesses. The Island County Comprehensive Plan contains an exhaustive list of these areas, with maps, found online at www.islandcountywa.gov/Planning/2016CompPlan/2016_07-Parks.pdf. County-owned and managed areas are free to all, you don't need a Discover Pass and you don't have to pay to park. What a gift to all of us!
- In addition, Whidbey has five huge State Parks — Deception Pass, Joseph Whidbey, Fort Ebey, Fort Casey and

South Whidbey State Park. We have a free branch of the National Park System in Coupeville, Ebey's National Historical Reserve.

- Whidbey Camano Land Trust has several properties that are open to the public, including Trillium Forest, Del Fairfax Preserve and Admiralty Inlet Forest.
- The Port of Coupeville owns Greenbank Farm and its miles of field and forest trails.
- Langley boasts Saratoga Woods, Putney Woods, Trustland Trails and Community Forestlands.
- Friends of Freeland has built marsh trails and paths for the community.
- There are off-leash dog parks, ball fields, boat launches, picnic areas, playgrounds, disc golf courses, and beaches. We who live here are spoiled for outdoor recreation choices.

These lands all have to be maintained and cared for. Weeds have to be removed, blowdowns moved, brush trimmed, signs cleaned and replaced, trash picked up. No public or private agencies have enough money to do these jobs as well as they would like, and some struggle to do them at all.

I challenge you: Explore a new public place each month, and adopt one that you already use. Carry a trash bag, pull invasives, pick up litter, volunteer when calls for help go out and spread the word. Attend meetings about these places, and make it clear that you use them and appreciate them. The birds, and the rest of us, say thank you.

Volunteer Corner: Litter Pick Up

We'll be picking up litter on our chapter's two-mile section of West Beach Road on Saturday, October 14. Meet in the parking area at Hastie Lake Boat Launch at 1 p.m. We'll have trash bags and safety gear to wear. Dress for the weather. We are committed to the litter pick up three times a year. This is a good outreach into the community for Whidbey Audubon Society and we need your help.



— Steve Ellis, 360-678-2264

— Kim Shepard, Conservation Chair

Heavenly Bamboo Believed to be Toxic to Birds

I received an email from my relative, a garden enthusiast, who wanted to inform me about the harmful effects of Heavenly Bamboo, also called Sacred Bamboo, *Nandina domestica*, to birds and wildlife. This plant is not native to North America; it was brought here from Asia. It is not in the bamboo family but is an invasive evergreen weed. It can be a lovely addition to landscaped gardens around the country. The entire plant is poisonous and the bright red berries attract birds, especially the fruit-eating Cedar Waxwings, which, after exhausting all their food sources, will turn to the bamboo's bright red berries growing on the long green leafed stems. The berries contain cyanide and alkaloids creating highly toxic hydrogen cyanide, poisonous to birds and possibly humans.

It was not known that this plant contained highly toxic particles until a Decatur, Georgia, man found several dead Cedar Waxwings on his property. He was very alarmed and inquisitive as to the sudden death of so many birds in one area. The birds were brought to the College of Veterinary Medicine, University

of Georgia, where researchers did a necropsy to discover the cause of their deaths. The result found in the study was the birds had died from cyanide toxicity. The incident in Decatur, Georgia, was reported in the *Scientific*

Journal of Veterinary Medicine International. Articles about the deadly chemicals in the plant have appeared in other publications such as that of Audubon Arkansas, January 28, 2016.

To prevent the toxic poisoning of birds, the berries can be removed by clipping them off from the branches before they develop into attractive berries for the birds.

— Lois Matthews



Sacred Bamboo, *Nandina domestica*

Dan's Blog: Eye to Eye

by Dan Pedersen with Craig and Joy Johnson, #263 posted September 16, 2017, pedersenwrites.blogspot.com/2017/09/263-eye-to-eye.html?showComment=1457186745792.html.

Editor's note: *Dan's Blog* is published every Saturday morning. From time to time he partners with Craig and Joy Johnson to write about birds. For more, including additional photography, click on this link: www.pedersenwrites.blogspot.com. If you'd like to be added to Dan's email list to receive the link to the latest post each week, write to Dan Pedersen at dogwood@whidbey.com.



Photo by Craig Johnson

Wilson's Warbler makes eyes at Craig as he sits on his deck.

Sitting on his deck the other afternoon, my blog partner Craig Johnson found himself eye to eye with a stunning visitor, a solitary Wilson's Warbler.

"It was almost ethereal," Craig says. "I'm sitting there alone with this intense yellow bird, lit up by the reflected light of the glass patio table. I happened to have my camera and got one quick shot as it stood next to me on the rim of the table -- a little moment of magic. Often these moments happen when I don't have my camera, so I just sit there and watch and think, 'That was magical.'"

Wilson's Warblers are not feeder birds, Craig says. "You can't attract them with birdseed. Plus, it's late in the season to even see them." So why do they visit some people's yards and never someone else's?

Craig thinks the bird may have been starting its migration south and noticed the moving water in a tabletop fountain on his deck. "People wonder how to attract some of the more unusual birds like this to their yards. Water often is the answer, especially during a hot, dry summer like we've had in Puget Sound.



Photo by Craig Johnson

Juvenile Bushtits, soaking wet, on Craig and Joy's fountain.

A little earlier this summer, Craig got a cute image of two juvenile

Bushtit siblings, their plumage totally soaked after a vigorous bath in the same tiny tabletop fountain. This is a species you might see at a suet feeder, but it was the tabletop fountain that brought Craig eye to eye with these two.

Sightings like these would make anyone's day, but they're especially meaningful to shut-ins like Craig, pinned down at home by complex health challenges. They are his window on the world, a magical link to wholesome normalcy and the joy of nature. It's a miracle he has wildlife in his yard at all, since it's just a postage stamp of habitat in a cluster of highly groomed properties on a suburban street. He and Joy have counted 80 species of birds, many of which find places to nest in the very limited habitat.

My own neighborhood a few miles away is nestled in forest with widely-spaced homes. We all watch the wildlife, too, and live at peace with them. Great-horned and Barred Owls are special favorites here.

Neighbor Diane Reed was out in her yard before dusk the other evening and approached two deer just across the garden fence. They were relaxed so she tossed them a couple of apples, which they gratefully accepted. Since then they've come back for more.

Joy Johnson says she's not surprised at the acceptance on both sides. Wildlife pick up on that. "Living where you do, you expect

Dan's Blog, see page 5

Upcoming Field Trips from page 1

a morning of local birding. Meet at the Bayview Park & Ride at 8:30 a.m. to carpool. Bring your binocular and scopes and let's see who has returned. Contact Ann Casey at cspcoach@aol.com.

Saturday, November 11: SMITH & MINOR ISLAND AQUATIC RESERVE. View wintering loons, grebes and other water birds that are attracted to the most diverse kelp beds in Greater Puget Sound. We'll also visit nearby Fort Ebey State Park to look for forest species.

Meet at Point Partridge (end of Libbey Road) at 9 a.m. for this half-day trip. All vehicles entering the state park will need a Discover Pass. Plan to do some walking. Trip leader is Steve Ellis, 360-678-2264.

Field Trip Checklist

- ✓ Field trips are free and open to anyone interested in birding or conservation. Bring your friends!
- ✓ Beginners are very welcome.
- ✓ Carpooling is encouraged and even required for some sites with limited parking.
- ✓ Dress for the weather and in layers.
- ✓ Very bad weather cancels a trip. Check with the trip leader.
- ✓ If you have them, bring binoculars, scope and field guides.
- ✓ If you might need them, bring a drink and snack.

We are always looking for new trip leaders and assistants. If you are interested, please contact Ann Casey at cspcoach@aol.com.

Sightings Sightings Sightings Sightings Sightings

August 28: Pectoral Sandpiper seen at Deer Lagoon, next to the trail leading to the west dike. Two **Baird's Sandpipers** on salt water flats east of the west dike.

— *Darwin Wile*

August 29: About 20 large white and black birds. About a mile high. Approached in a "V" from the east then became a large group that moved without using their wings. They were soaring as I had seen eagles do when it is windy. There was no discernable wind. Location: Northwest of Davis Landing.

Confirmation: I have been a waterfowl hunter for 73 years and majored in biology in college. They were larger than Canada Geese. If I had to guess I would say probably **White Pelicans**. I have lived here for 14 years but never seen pelicans. — *Ted Hendersen*

[Editor's Note: The White Pelicans showed up on Whidbey Island last summer and stayed at Deer Lagoon. This summer, they have been seen there as well as Crockett Lake and Dugualla Bay].

August 30: A dark morph Parasitic Jaeger chasing Bonaparte's Gulls. Location: Saratoga Passage near Langley.

— *Dave Parent*

September 1: Juvenile American Redstart flycatching. Location: Off Saratoga Road near Langley. — *Dave Parent*

September 3: I was walking back to the house (in Langley) from the cemetery, when three large birds were on the approach, flying over the cow field on Al Anderson Avenue just up from Sixth

Street; they made no calls. They were grey, and as they flew directly over me, I could see reddish "caps" on their heads, long necks, long dark bills, and blackish legs trailing behind them, rather than being tucked in; they had wide wingspans of maybe five to six feet, and the wings were deep, and not thin. I know that **Sandhill Cranes** are rare here, but I've seen them before, and nothing else looks like that!

— *Gideon Seraphine*

September 9: Barred Owl perched on milepost sign. I had just passed a birding field trip at Crockett Lake, turned up the hill back to the highway. — *Rich Shaughnessy*

September 10: Lincoln's Sparrow. Location: Towards the far end of the West Dike path at Deer Lagoon.

— *Jay Adams*

September 11: Vaux's Swift. Location: Five birds flying over the Café and parking lot at the Coupeville Ferry terminal. — *Jay Adams*

September 13: Swainson's Thrush — early this morning the bird flew into our window. He was stunned, so I put him into a cardboard box to warm him up. Ten minutes later I could hear the bird rustling inside the box, a good sign that he was ready to be released. Location: Deer Lagoon.

— *Darwin Wile*

September 13: Two dozen **Caspian Terns** mixed in with the **gulls** at the end of the boat ramp at Nichols Brothers boat yard in Freeland.

— *David/Louise Kankel*

September 14/15: Horned Lark. Location: Two or three

yesterday, one today on the dry flats at the east end of Crockett Lake, essentially across from the viewing platform. — *Jay Adams*

September 17: Possible African collared-Dove. Came to my feeder with **Eurasian collared-Doves**; noticeably smaller, white under tail coverts, has collar, very pale, very light primaries.

— *Darwin Wile*

[Editor's Note: According to allaboutbirds.org, the **African collared-Dove** (AKA **Ringed Turtle-Dove**) is a rarity in the wild and is usually an escaped pet.]

September 14/16: First Golden-crowned Sparrow and Varied Thrush of the season. Location: The sparrow was seen at the Coupeville High School; the thrush in our yard in Coupeville. — *Steve Ellis*

September 17: For the past week, I have seen small flocks of **Band-Tailed Pigeons** at my feeding station in my back yard. I didn't think anything of it but the "Birds of Whidbey" checklist shows it as "uncommon". Location: Race Lagoon, Coupeville. — *Robin Gardner*

September 20: First, first winter **Golden-Crowned Sparrows** x2 in the yard and cedars! They're one of the few birds I can hear calling inside the house with their beautiful songs early in the morning. I'm on the lookout for adults, but haven't seen any yet. Location: Northwest Broadway Street, Coupeville.

— *Traci York*

September 21: Two Lapland Larkspur flew onto the dike and started feeding. They

were on the west dike about two-thirds of the way down, about where Darwin Wile and his son found one around this time last year, if I recall correctly. I took a few mediocre photos, (see *eBird* for photos) then approached closer as they seemed fairly "tame", but then a **Harrier** suddenly appeared and the longspurs flew. Location: Deer Lagoon.

— *George Heleker*

September 23: Pectoral Sandpiper. Location: Four birds seen on the flats slightly north and west of the Audubon viewing platform at Crockett Lake, Coupeville. **American Golden Plover.** Location: One juvenile with three juvenile **Black-bellied Plovers** in the flats across the road from the Audubon viewing platform, Crockett Lake, Coupeville. **Horned Lark.** Location: A single bird seen on the road running east from the Audubon viewing platform. Extremely pale all over. Pale gray-brown above. White face. White below. Just a hint of partial black mask. Faint pale gray streaks in place of the often-present black breast band. — *Jay Adams*

September 24: Lapland Longspur. Location: One bird seen on the road that runs west (toward the ferry dock) from the Audubon viewing platform. The bird was feeding by the side of the road with **Savannah Sparrows**. Also present along the way were three **Western Meadowlarks**, nine **American Pipits** and a single **Horned Lark**.

— *Jay Adams*

September 24: George's three

Sightings, see page 6

Dan's Blog, from page 3

wildlife. You figure most people choose to be there because they enjoy nature and consider the wildlife a benefit and not a drawback.”

Of course, even a benefit has its challenges. Bill and Diane Reed want to move a population of bats away from the eaves of their house so they can seal the tiny crevices and do some painting. Bats are mammals like us and are highly beneficial. They are a protected species and the Reeds take a scientific and humane approach. So they've been doing their homework.

Recently, they bought two deluxe bat houses they plan to set up in an outlying location in their yard, “one for males and one for females,” Bill says. It seems bats prefer to live that way. Many of our bats migrate away in the fall, so just the natural cycle of the seasons will go part way to relieve the situation.

Once the bat houses are in place, “and we're sure there are no more young in the eaves, we're going to use one-way netting,” Bill

says. “This allows them to leave their homes but not to return. By then we will have the bat homes up and available nearby, and hopefully already discovered by some.”

He continues, “We plan to cut a fascia board into two- to three-inch lengths at the angle of the fascia board on the eave. When the bats are out, we'll look into the opening with a strong flashlight to confirm none remain and then we'll nail the boards, one into each gap.”

With a little luck and encouragement, the Reeds hope to safely transition their population to the new location. Bill promises pictures and more details for this blog later when the project gets further along. ...

...The bottom line in all this is that nature is an ongoing science lesson. Living in a rural place, we constantly observe, learn and adapt to wildlife. Most people I know moved here from somewhere else, often from urban environments, and wildlife were the least of our considerations in the beginning. Over time we became more aware of the life around us and then more tolerant, and finally more compassionate and respectful. We began to grasp the trail of connections

Dan's Blog, see page 6

Help Shape Land Trust's Conservation Plan

Whidbey Camano Land Trust (wclt) is updating its Conservation Plan and it needs public input. This plan provides the strategic priorities for wclt land protection and stewardship work to ensure it is protecting and caring for the islands' most important lands and waters for today and future generations.

There are many properties on Whidbey and Camano islands worthy of permanent protection, far more than the Land Trust has the capacity to handle at any one time. It's important to find out what you value to help us prioritize our work on your behalf.

Please attend one of our neighborhood meetings and share your thoughts:

- **Freeland** — Wednesday, October 11, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 18341 SR 525
- **Coupeville** — Thursday, October 19. 6 to 8 p.m. in the Coupeville Recreation Hall, 901 NW Alexander Street

After a short presentation, you'll participate in three activities where you'll share:

- What types of protected lands and waters you value most,
- What places are important to you and how you use them, and
- Where you'd most like to see conservation happening.

We'll use your input and that of resource experts to update our Conservation Plan.

Visit the wclt website at www.wclt.org/plan to see how the Conservation Plan guides our work and find a link to our current plan.

— Ron Newberry, wclt communications specialist

Welcome New and Renewing Members

New

Ann Nishimoto	Barbara Terao (General Fund)
David & Debbie Stoetzel	Sheri Croll (Scholarship Fund)

Renewing

Wendy Wilson	Kim Shepard (Spotted Towhee)
Lloyd Kiff	Karen Brooks
Patrick Hussey	Toni Piazzon
Frances Wood	Bonnie Ryder Bliss
Phyllis Kind (Pigeon Guillemot)	
Kathryn Beaumont & Jeff Rogers (Scholarship Fund)	
Karen Larsen Gordon (Scholarship Fund)	
Sooja Nehrllich (Scholarship Fund)	
Sarah Schmidt & Bill Rick (Spotted Towhee)	
Susan & Steve Bennett (Red-tailed Hawk)	
Bill & Lauren Young (Spotted Towhee)	
Richard & Janet Beall (Red-tailed Hawk)	
Lidabeth Hicks (Scholarship Fund)	
Elizabeth & Ray Jacques (Spotted Towhee)	
Ann Casey & Carol Plunkett (Spotted Towhee)	

The expiration month for paper copies is on your address label. I will send email reminders to both regular and email subscribers.

— Linda Bainbridge, Membership Chair

Birding In Neighborhoods South: White Pelicans and More

August 31: Deer Lagoon is always a good time. Noticeably absent — blackbirds, starlings, robins, and most all raptors (excepting the **Ospreys**). Weird. **Cedar Waxwings** are listed, because as we were leaving the Park & Ride at the end of our outing, a big flock came in and enjoyed the currant bushes there. A lovely morning where we saw and/or heard 35 species.

Wait — make that 36. Now we have a contest — when the first person lets me know that they have spied the important omission on the bird list. (Just an enthusiastic “good-on-ya” and a gold star!) **White Pelicans** thanks to Mary H.

September 14: Beautiful Day on Crockett and Keystone. There

Sightings, from page 4

Lapland Longspurs are still foraging on the lower trail of the west dike of Deer Lagoon. No pelicans today.

— *Darwin Wile*

September 24: Three **Horned Lark** and three **Lapland Longspur**. Location: Frontage road that parallels Route 20 along Crockett Lake. The Horned Lark were near the birding platform; the Lapland Longspur along the next frontage road beyond the birding platform. Photos of

both have been posted.

— *Joe Sheldon*

September 25: Visited Crockett Lake to look for the larks and longspurs, and found one **Horned Lark** along the frontage road east of the viewing platform and three **Lapland Longspurs** (along with a ton of **Savannah Sparrows**) east of the platform. As a bonus, we watched an **American Pipit** bathe in a puddle at the turnaround west of the platform. — *Carla Corin*

PLEASE POST UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS to the *Whidbey Audubon Society (WAS) website*.

Sightings should be on Whidbey Island or relate in some way to Whidbey Audubon. Reports should refer to birds or other wildlife that are not commonly seen here. Alternatively, they may refer to migratory birds that arrive outside their normal seasons.

Reports of especially interesting sightings in nearby areas are welcome. Greater selectivity is needed to keep the email volume reasonable so editors will exercise judgment on whether the rarity, proximity and significance of sightings merit inclusion.

These guidelines reflect the interests of local birders. Please respect the essentially scientific nature of the Sightings feature. Thanks for your cooperation.

There are designated spaces to submit your information, such as what you saw, where you saw it and the date and approximate time. Although we are asking those who post to leave a phone number or email address with your sighting, they will not be included on the actual “Sightings” page. Thank you!

Keep up with “Sightings” on the WAS website, on your mobile device at www.m.whidbeyaudubon.org or on the *Whidbey Audubon Society Facebook page*.

were plenty of birders, and tho’ the birds were sparse — well, except for the **gulls** — the group observed over 30 species, and with Jay’s expertise, was certain of several different **sandpipers/plovers**, and some **Horned Larks** and **American Pipits**. **Pelicans** are still hanging around, too.

— *Cathi Bower Bird early – bird often*

Birding In Neighborhoods (BIN) South meets every other Thursday morning. Time varies with season. Contact Cathi Bower at whidbird@whidbey.com.

BIN North Enjoys a Variety of Wildlife

Witches’ butter, turkey tails, Pacific chorus frog — our quiet morning walk at Del Fairfax Preserve turned up some unusual finds! Witches’ butter, also known as orange jelly, is a neon-bright fungus, and turkey tails are handsome multi-colored shelf fungi. We found both on tree trunks near the path. Pacific chorus frogs are tiny, brilliant green, and the most common amphibian on the West coast. Have you ever seen one? We spotted ours in shrubbery at knee height.

Whidbey Camano Land Trust, which owns the preserve, has installed botanical signs that identify trees, shrubs and ferns. We were looking hard for birds, but they were elusive and quiet. We managed to see or hear 13 species as we walked through forest and field and brought the morning’s total to a respectable 23 by finishing the morning at Grasser’s Lagoon. We are birders, but it’s fun to notice the things that move more slowly, or not at all.

— *Kim Shepard*

BIN North meets the second Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. Check with Marcia Lazoff at mlazoff@comcast.net to be added to the email list.

Dan’s Blog, from page 5

that leads from the lowliest creature to ourselves.

In the most special of wildlife moments, we come eye to eye with our fellow beings. Wariness gives way to a brief moment of trust and



Photo by Dan Pedersen

Great-horned Owls are the rabbit police in my neighborhood. We share the one at lower left with our neighbor Jeanne. The Stellers Jay at upper right wants it to leave.

curiosity. For an instant we know we are not alone, and we become more human. That is the gift the wildlife give us.

Follow the link on page 3 for the full story.

Field Trip Report: Port Townsend and Points in Between

The 2017–18 kickoff field trip this year was a grand success with seven birders boarding the 8:45 a.m. ferry to Port Townsend for a great day of birding and exploring the area. We began and ended our birding at the ferry terminal and all points in between. We covered a variety of habitats: open water, bays,

lagoons, forests, wetlands and estuaries. Our bird list included many species of ducks making the transition from their eclipse plumage to the breeding plumage, migrating shorebirds, rapture, seabirds and song birds. All in all, we sighted 61 species of birds and enjoyed a fabulous day of birding across the waters on the Olympic Peninsula.

Dates to Remember

OCTOBER

- 11: WCLT Conservation Plan meeting, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Freeland
- 12: Whidbey Audubon Program: *Night Skies*. 7 p.m. Coupeville
- 14: Litter Pick Up 1 p.m. Hastie Lake Boat Ramp
- 17: Field Trip: Whatcom Falls Park, Bellingham
- 19: Shorelines deadline for November issue
- 19: WCLT Conservation Plan meeting, 6 to 8 p.m., Coupeville
- 26: WAS Board Meeting, 7 p.m. Greenbank Fire Station on Day Road. Members welcome
- 28: Field Trip: Deer Lagoon

NOVEMBER

- 9: Whidbey Island Program: Smith and Minor Island Aquatic Reserve 7 p.m. Freeland
- 10 or 11: Class: Fall Birds of Padilla Bay and Samish Flats, 8 a.m. to noon www.padillabay.gov
- 23: No Board Meeting. *Happy Thanksgiving*

— Ann Casey, Trip Leader



Photo by a stranger on the ferry

Birders on the season's first field trip September 20 are Stu Ashley, Barbara Paul, Ann Casey, Linda Bainbridge, Linda Dwight, Sheryl Norris and Lea Kouba.

Review Bylaws Changes: Copies of the proposed revised bylaws will be available at the October and November membership meetings. Voting on the changes will take place at the November 9, 2017 membership meeting. A copy of the revised bylaws is also posted on the website, www.whidbeyaudubon.org.

Whidbey Audubon Society Membership

Please make your check payable to WHIDBEY AUDUBON SOCIETY (WAS)

Mail to: Linda Bainbridge, 4459 Towhee Lane, Greenbank, WA 98253

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| _____ Spotted Towhee \$50 | _____ Osprey \$ _____ |
| \$ _____ Additional Donation to be used for Scholarships | |

All memberships include 9 issues of *Shorelines* annually, a WAS window decal, discounts and early registration in our educational classes.

_____ **SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY MEMBERSHIP** for first year National Members only. Receive a joint membership in National and Whidbey Audubon for one year for only \$35. **Make check payable to National Audubon.**

The Whidbey Audubon Society is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible. It is Whidbey Audubon policy to never share our membership and subscription information with other groups.