



The Kingfisher

Kitsap Audubon Society

February 2009

Program – February 12, 2009

The Wildlife Photography of Nate Chappell - Featuring Namibia and Thailand.

Wildlife Photographer Nate Chappell will show photos from his recent month-long trips to Namibia and Thailand. There will be a mix of bird and mammal photography, with an emphasis on birds. Namibia is a dry country in southwest Africa with a surprising variety of beautiful birds and an abundance of large mammals. On his Thailand trip, he visited ecosystems ranging from tropical swamp forest to the highest mountain in Thailand, and photographed a great variety of bird life.

Nate Chappell took up birding at the age of 11 and has been birding, travelling and photographing ever since. He lives in the Tacoma area and his photographs have been published in books and birding newsletters. He and his wife Angie lead wildlife photography tours to Ecuador, Thailand and other locations. Nate is currently the avian gallery moderator for Naturephotographers Online Magazine. You can view his website at www.trogontours.net.

Little Bee Eater from Namibia. Photo courtesy of Nate Chappell.



This Balsam Poplar in Sequim is the largest tree of its kind in the country. It measures 148 feet tall and has a circumference of 21 feet 3 inches. Dwarfed in the photo by the tree are Bainbridge plant pathologist Dr. Olaf Ribeiro and Sequim arborist James Causton. Photo courtesy of Jim Trainer.

Printed by Blue Sky Printing

Society meets the 2nd Thursday of each month, September through May, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., on the lower level of the Poulsbo Public Library, 700 NE Lincoln Rd. Meetings are open to the public. There is free parking behind the Library. Enter from the rear.



Kitsap Audubon Society

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Coming Programs

March 12th – Owls Of Kitsap County
By Jamie Acker.

April 9th – David Knibb Author Of Grizzly Wars:
The Public Fight Over The Great Bear.

May 14th – Live Raptors, With Mike Pratt,
Director Of Wildlife Services At West Sound
Wildlife Shelter.

Spring 2009 ACOW – May 1-3

Twice each year, the staff of Audubon Washington and leaders from the 26 chapters gather for a three-day Audubon Council of Washington (ACOW) Conference. Each is hosted by a different chapter on a rotating basis.

The Spring 2009 ACOW will be held at the Tierra Learning Center Lodge in Leavenworth, and will be hosted by Spokane Audubon.

These stimulating conferences give chapter members a chance to share ideas, hear great speakers

and attend workshops on such topics as chapter building, fundraising, conservation and education. The conferences are preceded by half-day meetings for chapter conservation and education chairs. The conferences typically include special field trips.

Chapter members are encouraged to attend these informative conferences. Stay tuned for details as they become available.

Collecting Dead Birds

Elizabeth Warren will take dead birds to the Burke Museum in Seattle, where she has long served as a docent. Double-bag in plastic bags and note the date and location where it was found. Keep frozen until you can get it to her. Call 360-297-2151 or email her at bizw11@msn.com.

Special Thanks

Our special thanks to the following:

Wild Birds Unlimited in Gig Harbor, owned by Jim Ullrich, donates raffle prizes and gives back to Kitsap Audubon Society a percentage from sales to KAS members.

Wild Birds in Poulsbo. Our thanks to Scott Pomtier of Wild Birds in Poulsbo for his contributions to our raffle table.

One Call For All. Bainbridge Island members and friends have contributed generously by designating KAS for donations.

Kitsap Audubon Presidents' Report

Calendar Confusion

We apologize to those who showed up on our regular January meeting night for Paul Bannick's presentation, only to learn it had happened the previous night. A realtors' group reserved our space a year ago, so we were forced to change our January meeting night. In spite of reminders, the Kitsap Sun got it wrong. More than 70 people showed up on Wednesday for Paul's presentation; but a few were confused by the error in the Kitsap Sun and missed his presentation. In February we will be back to our regular 2nd Thursday meeting night. If you are among those who came on the wrong night, please accept our deepest apologies.

Christmas Bird Count Delayed By Weather

Our grateful thanks to all who volunteered for our annual Kitsap Christmas Bird Count. It had to be postponed to Sunday, January 4th, because of snow and travel conditions. We were unable to leave our driveway for eight



days. Because of bitter cold and icy roads, many volunteers were unable to participate this year. The final results will also reflect the cancellation of several count areas. In addition, wind and tides were not in our favor. We will soon have results to share from this year's count, including Trumpeter and Tundra swans and many Anna's Hummingbirds. Of course next year we will have sunny skies, favorable tides, cooperative birds and lots of smiling volunteers.



Kitsap Audubon Awarded Chapter Grant

Kitsap Audubon has been awarded a \$500 grant from Audubon Washington to print a four-color brochure promoting our chapter. If you have graphic design skills you would like to share, we would love to hear from you.

Sandy & Gene Bullock

Note our new Comcast email addresses :
roadrunner1957@comcast.net
genebullock@comcast.net

EcoFest - Saturday, May 2, 11 - 4 p.m.

Stillwaters Environmental Center 26059 Barber Cut Off Road, Kingston

EcoFest is the most exciting way to celebrate Earth Day in Kitsap County! EcoFest is a community celebration, with a huge selection of exhibitors—including Kitsap Audubon—and displays to delight you with all kinds of environmental education and eco-friendly products, from electric scooters to bamboo floors! There will be great

music, food, and entertainment all day. The Native Plant Nursery will be open for sales. Park at Gordon Elementary School or Bayside Church, where there is plenty of parking and a shuttle to the Farmers Market, the Kingston Garden Club Plant Sale and other events in Kingston.

Contact 360-297-2876 or naomi@stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org



This leucistic Dark-eyed Junco was photographed by Don Willott at his feeders on Bainbridge Island during the December snows.

Environmental Lobby Day - Thursday, February 19

Each year a coalition of 22 statewide environmental organizations, including **Audubon Washington**, adopts four legislative priorities. The groups then work with sponsors in the legislature to help draft related legislation. Once it's introduced, the groups focus their resources and rally public support for these bills. Last year, with the help of citizen lobbyists across the State, **all four priorities became law.**

Environmental Lobby Day is a day when hundreds of citizen activists converge on Olympia to learn more about this year's four priorities for environmental and human health.

During Lobby Day, you will:

- Learn about the issues:** Get briefed by experts on all four priorities.
- Attend lobbying trainings:** Learn the tricks of the trade from top environmental lobbyists.
- Meet face-to-face with your legislators:** Put your knowledge into action in a face-to-face meeting with your legislator.
- Attend an important committee hearing** on the Capitol campus.
- Eat well**, with a continental breakfast and catered lunch.
- Celebrate the day with food and drink at the Governor's Mansion!**

Register Today!

Register today so we can schedule meetings with all

your legislators. To register, go to <http://pugetsound.org/programs/policy/lobbyday09> or contact Rein Attemann at rattemann@pugetsound.org or 206-382-7007.

To learn more about the four priorities, go to www.environmentalpriorities.org.

Registration Fee: \$15

Governor's Mansion Reception: \$10 (Registration Required)

Coming From Afar?

This year we offer bus transportation from Bremerton (7:45 a.m.; \$15).

For those interested in carpooling we can assist you as well.

Environmental Film & Discussion Series

Six Fridays: January 16 – March 27, 2009. 7 p.m. Free.
Eagle Harbor Congregational Church Fellowship Hall
Bainbridge Island
www.tinyurl.com/Yes-We-Must

Refreshments will be provided; participants are encouraged to bring their own beverage mugs and chair cushions. There is no admission charge, but donations are appreciated.

Co-sponsored by *Cedars Unitarian Universalist Church Green Sanctuary Committee, Eagle Harbor Congregational Church, Grace Episcopal Church Earth and Spirit Committee, and IslandWood*, the series investigates the moral issues and practical solutions related to urgent environmental challenges. Each of the six films will be introduced briefly and set in context of

the issues it explores, and will be followed with a moderated discussion.

Jan. 16: *Renewal – What are people of faith doing to protect our environment?* Jessie Dye, Program and Outreach Director for Earth Ministry; Rev. Dee Eisenhauer, Senior Pastor, Eagle Harbor Congregational Church

Jan. 23: *The Greening of Southie – What does a 'green building' mean to those who build and live in one?* Greg Hepp, AIA, LEED AP, member of design team for LEED Gold Seattle City Hall; Kathleen O'Brien, green design consultant and author

Feb. 13: *Everything's Cool – How can we (must we) create the political will to respond to the urgent threat of climate change in time?* Dr. Gary Lagerloef, Principal Investigator, NASA

Aquarius Mission, Earth & Space Research; Kerri Cechovic, organizer for Washington Environmental Council Environmental Lobby Day

Feb. 27: *Liquid Assets – With water quality and quantity in doubt, is our water infrastructure up to the task?* Tom von Schrader, a Bainbridge resident and Principal, SvR Design, with expertise in green infrastructure for fresh water, waste water, and stormwater.

Mar. 13: *March Point – Three Native youth explore themselves, the environment, and the threat their people face.* Tracy Rector, March Point filmmaker

Mar. 27: *Eating Alaska – What happens to a vegetarian who moves to the last frontier?* Jim White, Chef/Food Services Manager at IslandWood

2009 Environmental Priorities

The 2009 priorities include:

- **Cap & Invest to reduce global warming emissions**
- **Efficiency First to promote energy efficiency and conservation**
- **Transit-oriented Communities for better transportation choices**
- **Invest in Clean Water to restore Puget Sound and other water bodies**

The 2009 Environmental Priorities are focused on promoting a vibrant and growing green economy.

Now is the time to create new jobs, build new infrastructure, and promote new economic stimulus in a way that will drive us towards healthier, more efficient, and more livable communities.

To this end, three of our Priorities propose critical next steps for state-level action to meet our climate change goals. The other Priority would help raise new revenue for clean water and pollution prevention.

Cap and Invest

By implementing real limits on global warming pollution, we can create new jobs and stimulate the growth of a clean energy economy here in Washington State. This effort implements the cap on climate pollution the Legislature adopted last year. Emitters would pay for pollution permits, and the

new revenue would be invested to reduce fossil fuel dependence, create green jobs and spur new clean-tech innovation, while providing assistance to moderate- and low-income households struggling with high energy costs. Through state action, we can reduce global warming pollution in a manner that benefits Washington's economy, protects Washington's interests in the national climate policy debate and positions us for success in the new clean energy economy.

Efficiency First

Promoting energy efficient homes, businesses and public institutions will save money, enhance energy security, and significantly reduce global-warming pollution. Energy efficiency is the cheapest and most immediate way to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions and will create thousands of good, family-wage jobs in Washington. This bill will put "efficiency first" by promoting super-efficient, low-energy-use buildings, providing incentives to maximize energy efficiency, requiring energy use information on buildings offered for sale or lease; and making our public buildings models of energy efficiency. This policy will also help to ensure that low-income consumers can cope with rising energy costs.

Transit-Oriented Communities

Washingtonians want to live in affordable, walkable and transit-oriented communities. With population growth, we are facing increased traffic congestion, diminished quality of life, and ever-increasing greenhouse gas emissions. Transit-Oriented Communities would revise the state's transportation and land-use planning framework to assist local jurisdictions to plan for growth in a sustainable and climate-friendly way. The bill will provide incentives for cities and developers to create affordable, livable, transit-oriented development, increasing transportation choices.

Invest in Clean Water

From Puget Sound to the Spokane River, clean water is Washington's lifeblood and our communities can't thrive without it. This package of targeted polluter-pays fees will protect the taxpaying public and ensure that polluters take responsibility for the impacts of their actions. The effort will raise new revenue to fund critical projects to save Puget Sound and restore Washington's rivers and lakes. By investing in stormwater infrastructure, toxics prevention and other programs, we create new jobs, relieve financial pressure on local government, and promote new economic stimulus.

Community Wildlife Habitat Leadership Workshop

National Wildlife Federation and Community Wildlife Habitat
Saturday, March 7th, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm: Workshop
South County Senior Center
220 Railroad Ave.
Edmonds, WA 98320

FREE. Lunch will be provided.
3:45 pm: Optional Local Outing with Edmonds CWH Team
Contact Courtney Sullivan at sullivanc@nwf.org or 206-285-8707 x108
Last day to RSVP is March 1st.

Field Trips

John Finkbeiner
Field Trip Chair
360-895-0374

finchlegs@wavecable.com

FIELD TRIP GUIDELINES

1. Trips are limited to 12 participants unless otherwise specified.
2. Children 12 and under are welcome only on designated family trips or with permission of the leader.
3. Call the leader or contact person as soon as possible to reserve a spot and get details.
4. If the weather is questionable, or if you must cancel, call the leader the morning of the trip.
5. Dress for the weather. Please refrain from wearing white or bright colored clothing.
6. Bring binoculars, cash for ride-sharing (see below), and bring a lunch for all day trips.

Field Trip Transportation

Carpooling is encouraged to reduce costs and limit the parking space required. Passengers are asked to share any expenses with the driver. A contribution to the driver of \$5 for shorter trips and \$10 for overnight trips is suggested, with any ferry fares, parking fees, etc. divided equally between the driver and passengers.



Field Trips/Events

Washington Narrows, Saturday, February 28. Leaders: Gene and Sandy Bullock (360-394-5635; genebullock@comcast.net). We'll bird the Port Washington Narrows, home to a well known Pelagic Cormorant roost and a Peregrine Falcon nesting site. Also we'll visit the Bremerton waterfront where we hope to see an assortment of Grebes and some Long-tailed Ducks. Meet at the concession stand at Lion's Park on Lebo Road in East Bremerton at 9:30 a.m. Plan to finish about Noon..

Olympic BirdFest 2009, Sequim, Washington, April 3-5, 2009. Grab your binoculars and join the Olympic BirdFest 2009 celebration at the Dungeness River Audubon Center, April 3-5, 2009. Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours; and a traditional salmon bake at the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Center. Check out the offerings by going online (<http://www.olympicbirdfest.org>), or calling for a brochure.

Birding cruise of the San Juan Islands, April 5-7, 2009. Also this year! Follow your BirdFest weekend with a **three-day, two night birding cruise of the spectacular San Juan Islands.** Visit San Juan and Sucia Islands, and more. Stay at the historic Roche Harbor Resort. Get program information and registration forms online at: <http://www.olympicbirdfest.org>. Contact us by phone, at 360-681-4076, or e-mail us at info@olympicbirdfest.org.

Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival, April 24 - 26, 2009, Hoquiam. For information, call 1-800-303-8498 or visit www.shorebirdfestival.com

Spring 2009 ACOW: May 1-3 at the Tierra Learning Center Lodge in Leavenworth.

Field Trip Report

Sinclair Inlet, Waterman Point, Manchester & Yukon Harbor trip on December 6, 2008. John Finkbeiner, Trip Leader. We had no rain, but mostly it was overcast. There were 13 birders. At Port Orchard, a large flock of American Wigeons, estimated to be over 1000, was some distance away so we could not find any Eurasian Wigeons. I had seen four there just two days earlier. Our total for the day was well over 30 species, including Common and Red-throated Loons, four species of grebe, including a Pied-billed Grebe. There were 13 species of ducks. A saltwater view of a Northern Shoveler, found by young Kyle Leader, was very unusual. All three species of cormorant were seen, with good numbers of Brandt's. Probably the rarest bird for the South Kitsap area was the Rhinoceros Auklet seen at Manchester. We had a good day of birding, ending with a fine lunch at the Club House Grill.

Wildlife Sightings—Joan Carson

joanpcarson@comcast.net)

The snow that blanketed our area plus the cold temperatures made for some interesting birds in December. The Anna's hummingbirds must have known this was coming as their numbers in the Northwest were of record proportions. Fox sparrows and varied thrush have been a bit scarce in recent years but they were back in good numbers. Of particular interest has been the reports of partial albino (leucistic) birds. Fox sparrows, red-breasted nuthatches and even a pelican fell into this group. A pure white crow was also in the mix.

Jan. 8, Herb Armstrong, Dungeness, a gray pelican. Jan. 6, Brad Waggoner, Hansville, 1 partial albino fox sparrow & 1 orange-crowned warbler. Jan. 5, Ga Neille Hostvedt, Rocky Point Rd., flock of golden-crown kinglets foraging around her feet! Jan. 5, Claudia & John McDonald, Lake Symington area, their 1st Eastern gray squirrel. (We're now overrun with them in Poulsbo). Jan. 5, Brad W., Island Lake, 2 tundra swan. Jan. 5, Carson yard, Poulsbo, 1 cottontail rabbit! Jan. 4, Susan & Tom Mitchell, B.I., a flying squirrel at their feeders. Jan. 4, Fay Linger's Christmas Bird Count group, Island Lake, 1 trumpeter swan, 1 tundra swan, 24 ring-necked ducks. At Keyport docks, 6 black scoters, 7 long-tailed ducks, 5 Pacific loons. The Ross' goose is still at Munroe's Farm in Keyport. Jan. 4, Jamie Acker, owling, B.I., 6 barred owls, 7 Northern saw-whets, 1 barn owl, 2 great horned

& 1 Northern pygmy (off Island). Jan. 4, Brad W., Lyn-wood Ctr., B.I., hybrid male Barrow's x common goldeneye. Jan. 3, Brad W., Restoration Point, 2 ancient murrelets, 1 Northern harrier. Jan. 3, Deborah Rudnick, B.I., a sharp-shinned hawk at her feeder. Jan. 1, Deborah R., a flock of golden-crowned kinglets and a mature bald eagle.



Kelly Hall reported at least a dozen Anna's Hummingbirds at his feeders on BI.

Photo courtesy of Kelly Hall

Dec. 27, Carson yard, Poulsbo, 3 fox sparrows. Dec. 27, Tim Kelly, Lighthouse Point near Port Orchard, a pr. Of MacGillivray's warblers. One female MacGillivray's also seen 12/10 and 12/23. Also on 12/27, he had a male Townsend's warbler. Dec. 26, Ward Starring, Chico Way near Bremerton, a partial albino fox sparrow. Sent beautiful photo. Dec. 26, Richard Roddy, West Bremerton, a varied thrush his yard for first time. Dec. 26, Herb Armstrong, Dungeness, a cattle egret. Dec. 25, Brad W., his feeder, B.I., 1 white-throated sparrow, a Virginia

rail feeding with sparrows & juncos (12/19-25). Dec. 25, Carson yard, Poulsbo, 2 Anna's hummingbirds. Dec. 23, Brad W., B.I. Fish pens, glaucous gull. Dec. 23, Sharon Lanier, at a friend's feeder in Manchester, partial albino red-breasted nuthatch (another beautiful photo). Dec. 22, Carson yard, Poulsbo, 3 Townsend's warblers. Dec. 21, Bonnie Ingwersen, a pair of Townsend's warblers. Dec. 21, Claudia Kilburn, 1 Townsend's warbler. Dec. 18 to Jan. 4, Brad W., B.I., a hermit thrush. Also on the 18th, 2 slate-colored junco with the 40+ Oregon juncos at his feeders. Dec. 16, Carson yard, Poulsbo, a 3-thrush day: 1 hermit thrush (first seen 12/6), several varied thrush & large robin flock. Dec. 15, Kelly Hall, B.I., at least a dozen Anna's hummingbirds at his feeders. Sent in many terrific photos of their feeding frenzy during the snow. Dec. 10, Al Gunther, Eglon, a pure white common crow. Dec. 6, Brad W., Murden Cove, B.I., pair of dueting great horned owls; Restoration Point, 1 Cassin's auklet & 3 ancient murrelets. Dec. 5, Jamie Acker, Agate Pass Bridge tower, peregrine falcon. Also a chestnut-backed chickadee, his yard, with all-white tail. Dec. 4, Brad W., Fletcher Bay, B.I., 8 vocalizing trumpeter swans flying over. Nov. 29, Jamie Acker, B.I., owling, 4 Northern saw-whet, 1 barn owl, 2 barred & off-Island, a pair of Northern pygmy owls. Nov. 22, Jamie, B.I., 4 barred owls, 1 barn, 4 Northern saw-whet, 1 great horned owl.



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The KINGFISHER is the newsletter of Kitsap Audubon Society P.O. Box 961, Poulsbo, WA 98370. It is published eight times a year, September to May. Submissions from readers are welcome. We reserve the right to edit for space, grammar or legal reasons. Email text or photographs to bullockg@earthlink.net or mail them to Gene Bullock, Kingfisher Editor, 1968 NE Lind Ct., Poulsbo WA 98370. Our deadline is the 15th of the preceding month.

To receive your KINGFISHER via email, and save us the cost of printing and mailing, send your request to Gene Bullock at bullockg@earthlink.net.

The mission of the Kitsap Audubon Society is to preserve the natural world through education, environmental study and habitat protection, and to promote awareness and enjoyment of local and regional natural areas.

Kitsap Audubon Society – Membership Application

Please make checks payable to Kitsap Audubon Society and mail to KAS, PO Box 961, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Check type of Membership (All include 8 issues of the KINGFISHER newsletter annually):

- Kitsap Audubon Society Chapter *Individual Membership* (\$15 per year)
- KAS Chapter *Family Membership* (\$25 per year)
- Contributing KAS Member* (\$50 per year)
- Sustaining KAS Member* (\$75 per year)
- Supporting KAS Member* (\$100 per year)
- Check here if you wish to receive KINGFISHER by email. Email address: _____

Visit our website at www.kitsapaudubon.org



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