

## Admiralty Audubon Pipings

### AAS Program

Thursday, 21 November 2013, 7 pm

*The public is invited:*

**Port Townsend Community Center  
Lawrence and Tyler**

**Live Raptors and Owls  
with Wildlife Rehabilitators  
Cindy Daily and Jaye Moore**

Cindy Daily of Discovery Bay Wild Bird Rescue (Port Townsend) and Jaye Moore of Northwest Raptor and Wildlife Center (Sequim) will bring live raptors and owls to the Community Center to educate us about the birds' natural history, and also about the role of wildlife rehabilitators. All Admiralty Audubon programs are free and open to the public.



*Jaye Moore and a Swainson's Hawk*

Both wildlife rehabilitation centers are dependent on donations for their operations, so contributions to support their efforts are most welcome. You can visit the centers online at <http://discoverybaywildbirdrescue.com> and <http://nwraptorcenter.com>.

*Rosemary Sikes*

Programs Chair,  
Admiralty Audubon

**Christmas Bird Count and Post-  
Count Potluck, 14 December 2013  
see page 2**

### AAS Field Trips

November 2013

**Saturday, 16 November 2013 - Fort Flagler**

Paula Vanderheul will lead a field trip to Fort Flagler Kilisut Harbor marine spit. We will meet at 9:30 am at the end of lower Campground Road parking in front of the playground equipment. We'll walk along the spit looking for migrant shorebirds and bay wintering species such as Long-tailed Duck, Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, Sanderling and many other possibilities. Bring your binoculars, spotting scopes, and cameras to view some spectacular birds. Be sure to layer up in warm clothing, raingear, boots, gloves and hats as it might be breezy, cool and wet. Those interested in carpooling from Port Townsend should meet by 8:45 am at the Park & Ride parking lot behind the bus transfer station across the street from Safeway. I'll meet everyone at Fort Flagler. *Trip Leader Paula Vanderheul (360-379-8564 or [pvanderheul@gmail.com](mailto:pvanderheul@gmail.com))*

**Saturday, 30 November 2013 - Admiralty Inlet**

David Gluckman will lead a field trip across Admiralty Inlet on the first ferry after 10 am to Keystone Harbor. We'll visit Crockett Lake and wherever else we have time for before catching an afternoon ferry back. We should find plenty of alcids, like Common Murre, Marbled and Ancient Murrelets, as well as many loons, grebes and scoters on the way across, and ducks on Crockett Lake. Bring a lunch or hope the restaurant in Keystone is open. Prepare for cold and wet weather, particularly the wind on the ferry. Buy a round trip ticket and meet on the ferry dock or waiting room. *Trip Leader David Gluckman (360 531-3325 or [cgluckman@aol.com](mailto:cgluckman@aol.com)); contact for more specific info near the trip date.*

*Please note: Participants in all field trips accept all risks and Admiralty Audubon accepts none.*

*David Gluckman*

Field Trips Chair,  
Admiralty Audubon

## AAS Field Trip Reports September & October 2013

### **Saturday, 24 September 2013 - Tarboo Creek Preserve and Tarboo Bay**

With the weather mild and partly cloudy, 15 pleased people walked around the Preserve with Northwest Watershed Institute Director Peter Bahls. Though there wasn't a lot of active birdlife except for the resident Barn Owl who put on a brief show for us, the numbers weren't too bad for this very late summer trip. At Tarboo Bay during a very low tide, lots of gulls, ducks and unidentifiable shorebirds popped in and out of the grasses and fed on the flats. We saw a large orange/yellow bear scat from the apples of a tree recently broken down. Bird sightings included Great Blue Heron, Turkey Vultures, Mallards, Green-winged Teal, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Virginia Rail, Glaucous-winged Gull, Barn Owl, Anna's Hummingbird, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Steller's Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Violet-green Swallow, Pacific Wren, Marsh Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, American Robin, Common Yellowthroat, Song Sparrow and Red-winged Blackbird. *David Gluckman, Trip Leader.*

### **Friday, 18 October 2013 - Chinese Gardens and North Beach**

In a very foggy start at Chinese Gardens I saw with my spotting scope and binoculars three very large geese, probably Great Basin Canada type, and another group of Canada Geese; 40 American Wigeon, Mallard, Northern Pintail, Ruddy Duck and Green-winged Teal. A Cooper's Hawk landed on a fence post near us. At North Beach the fog was lifting while seven of us birded along the beach heading west. Lots of Harlequin Duck, Brandt's and Pelagic Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Horned Grebe, Red-necked Grebe, Pacific Loon, Common Loon, Surf Scoter, White-winged and Black Scoter, and Red-breasted Merganser. We walked about a half mile before returning and adding Black Turnstone, Heermann's Gull, Mew Gull, Glaucous-winged Gull, Pigeon Guillemot, Savannah and Song Sparrow. We saw 29 species on this nice windless cool morning. *Paula Vanderheul, Trip Leader.*

## 114th Christmas Bird Count: Free and Invaluable 14 December 2013

Put East Jefferson County birds on the map! There will be no charge to participate in the Christmas Bird Count. National Audubon Society (NAS) has decided to publish the count results online exclusively and that eliminates the cost of the printed reports. Although NAS will still be more than happy to take donations, participation will be free. Our effort for the 114th Christmas Bird Count will take place on 14 December 2013. Join a designated count circle with other birders or count in your home landscape if you live within a designated circle and be part of the longest running wildlife census. Contact Dan Waggoner at [danwags57@gmail.com](mailto:danwags57@gmail.com) to participate. A post-count potluck dinner will gather participants to share their observations at Rosewind Commons at 6 pm on 14 December.

*Rosemary Sikes*

Programs Chair,  
Admiralty Audubon

## Apologies from Newsletter Editor

While perusing prior electronic newsletter issues to collect information for our annual report to National Audubon, I discovered that my attempts to make small file-size pdfs for convenient member downloading had resulted in some unfortunate consequences for images in various back issues. What left my computer looking okay ended up on the web as negative images (remember negatives, back when we used film for photos?) or were otherwise illegible. The affected issues will be re-exported to Acrobat and proper versions will be posted on our website as soon as time allows.

Our electronic members have been cheated out of some nice photography and I apologize for that. Please speak up if you see problems like this in the future so they can be fixed and re-posted in a timely way. Thanks for your patience.

*Debbie Jahnke*

Newsletters, Admiralty Audubon



*Sculptor Tony Angell and Eleanor's Pigeon Guillemots.*

## ACOW Meeting

Three Admiralty Audubon Board members attended the 2013 Audubon Chapters of Washington (ACOW) meeting in Bellevue WA on 5 October 2013. The plenary speaker, Kathy Dale, Director for Citizen Science at National Audubon, pointed out that the Christmas Bird Count is the longest continuous biological survey in existence. Although the data are collected by people of differing skill levels, robust data filtering protocols deal with outliers. Citizen scientists offer great value for the collection of large datasets.

Among other research applications, Christmas Bird Count data are being used in climate change studies, since the progressive alterations in wintering locations of bird species follows changing climatic conditions.

The Board members met with our local partners in our North Olympic Peninsula regional chapters - Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society and Kitsap Audubon Society. We discussed collaborations on shared interests and requested inclusion on e-newsletter lists among the chapters. The next meeting of our three-chapter group will be in Port Townsend in May 2014.

## Eleanor Stopps Award & Sculpture

The 9th annual Eleanor Stopps Environmental Leadership Award was presented to Rebecca Benjamin, executive director of the North Olympic Salmon Coalition, on 3 October 2013.

In addition to this annual tribute named in Eleanor's honor, the sculpture in recognition of the story of the Protection Island National Wildlife Refuge and Eleanor's pivotal role in that story has completed casting. The sculpture will be installed at the Northwest Maritime Center, likely sometime next spring or early summer.

Donations to the Memorial Fund would be welcome to complete the fundraising effort for the sculpture. Credit cards can be used via PayPal at <http://eleanorstopps.blogspot.com> and checks (made out to AAS Memorial Fund) can be sent directly to First Federal Bank, PO Box 1510, Port Townsend WA 98368.

*Admiralty Audubon is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowed by the IRS code.*

## Celebration for Kah Tai

A celebration of the transfer of properties between the City and the Port and the protection of the entirety of Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park hadn't happened even though the titles were transferred on 24 July 2013. It seemed that all parties were waiting for someone else to plan the celebration. The appropriate impetus finally arrived when the person who catalysed the effort to protect Kah Tai 30-odd years ago decided, on short notice, to come back for a visit.

The current Port Manager secured the yacht club for the event at the request of the Port Manager from 30-odd years ago. City and Port electeds and staff, incumbents and challengers came to acknowledge the success and perhaps claim a little credit. But many of the smiling citizens that came through the door were there to welcome a beloved friend back to town or to meet a legend for the first time.

It's been a hard-fought battle for Kah Tai. Admiralty Audubon and other Friends of Kah Tai have reason for celebration. But when you walk in the park, remember the folks who started it all.



### Rare Bird

The North Olympic Sierra Club Group in conjunction with the Olympic Forest Coalition and Admiralty Audubon are bringing Maria Mudd Ruth, author of *Rare Bird*, to the North Olympic Peninsula.

Join the author of *Rare Bird* for an inspiring presentation on the rare and threatened sea-bird, the Marbled Murrelet. As one of the only seabirds that traverses both land and sea, the Marbled Murrelet lives a double life, blending the ancient forests with the salty seas. Come learn about a bird that has become as controversial and celebrated as the Northern Spotted Owl. Enjoy Maria's well-crafted story as she explores the biology and politics around one of Washington State's most threatened waterfowl.

The book signing and presentation will be held Tuesday, 12 November, 7-9 pm at The Cotton Building, 607 Water St., Port Townsend, WA, 98368.

*Below: Planting at Parkside: - in no particular order: AAS member/volunteers Rosemary & Ron Sikes, Rick & Debbie Jahnke, Bob Tyer, Barb Stone, David Gluckman; City staff/volunteers Rick Sepler & Steve Wright, Boiler Room Board/member volunteers Marla & Thomas Overman, RJ Jones & Ray Niles; & citizen volunteer Patrick Moore. All photos courtesy David Gluckman.*



Come join us for a special evening with author Maria Mudd Ruth and *'Rare Bird: Pursuing the Mystery of the Marbled Murrelet'*.

### Planting at Parkside/Bishop Park

Members of Admiralty Audubon, the Boiler Room, City staff and citizen volunteers put forth a productive effort on 12 October and planted 325 donated plants ranging from alpine strawberries to substantial *Amelanchier x grandiflora* (apple serviceberry) and *Acer circinatum* (vine maple) trees. We planted over 20 native shrubs grown up from Conservation District bare root stock and many shrubs and perennials left over from the City's Esplanade planting. Two AAS members have adopted the park as stewards.

Next year we hope to see installation of a picnic shelter, bike rack, paths, rain garden, perennial garden, play equipment and other features desired by the Bishop Park neighbors.



## Workparties at Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park

**3 November & 8 December 2013, 9 am - noon**

Join us Sunday, 3 November and/or 8 December anytime between 9:00 am and noon for fall season workparties at Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park. We will be focusing on pulling Scot's Broom and picking up garbage. Park at the parking lot near the bathrooms and walk east toward the Benedict Street entrance southeast of the small pond.

Look for Ron's white Chevy pick-up with the bright green 'volunteer' sign. Dress for the season, wear work clothes and bring work gloves. Bring a shovel if you would like to plant native plants and pruners if you have them. Water, tea, cookies, fruit, garbage bags and Scot's Broom pullers will be provided. Hope to see you there. For more information contact 385-0307 or [rosemarysikes@olympus.net](mailto:rosemarysikes@olympus.net).

*Rosemary Sikes*

Programs, Admiralty Audubon



*Hooded Merganser © David Gluckman*

## Meet Our Chapter Vice President

My name is Bill Vogt and I'm 67 years old. I taught elementary school for 37 years. I taught in Maine, Minnesota, and Florida mostly in third, fourth, and second grade. I am a novice at bird watching, but I very much like to be in outdoors endeavoring.

I have only lived in Port Townsend for two years and love it here. I moved here from Florida to be nearer my son, Ben, who lives in Seattle. I also have daughters in Maine and Colorado.

As you can see I lived most of my life on the East Coast and know the Eastern birds much better than these on the West coast. I do miss Cardinals. The reason I volunteered to be on the board was two-fold: first, I believe it is a wonderful organization and second, now that I am retired I have the time.

*Bill Vogt*

Vice President  
Admiralty Audubon

*Any birder who has spent time in Cardinal territory would miss that perennial bright flash of red and Cardinal attitude here in the northwest. Here's a grayscale Northern Cardinal for our new vice president.*



### AAS Membership Form [\[http://admiraltyaudubon.org\]](http://admiraltyaudubon.org)

name \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

city, state, zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

email address \_\_\_\_\_ phone number \_\_\_\_\_

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

Send \$20 annual membership to: **Admiralty Audubon, PO Box 666, Port Townsend WA 98368**

Membership includes 6 issues of our newsletter per year and the right to vote in chapter elections.

Chapter programs and field trips are free to the public. We always welcome donations!

Banner  
Design and Art by  
Larry Eifert©



Admiralty Audubon Society PO Box 666 Port Townsend WA 98368



## Admiralty Audubon Officers and Board

President: Rick Jahnke	360-531-3417	<a href="mailto:rjahnke@att.net">rjahnke@att.net</a>
Vice President: Bill Vogt	--	<a href="mailto:gееezoman@bhvdesignlab.com">gееezoman@bhvdesignlab.com</a>
Secretary: Ron Sikes	360-385-0307	<a href="mailto:sikes@olympus.net">sikes@olympus.net</a>
Treasurer: Bob Tyer	360-379-1610	<a href="mailto:bwtyer@gmail.com">bwtyer@gmail.com</a>
Field Trips: David Gluckman	360-379-0360	<a href="mailto:cgluckman@aol.com">cgluckman@aol.com</a>
Programs: Rosemary Sikes	360-385-0307	<a href="mailto:rosemarysikes@olympus.net">rosemarysikes@olympus.net</a>
Conservation, Education, Publicity	open	
Membership, newsletter: Debbie Jahnke	360-531-3415	<a href="mailto:admiraudub@gmail.com">admiraudub@gmail.com</a>
Science Advisor: Ken Wilson	360-821-1101	<a href="mailto:tadpoleranch@gmail.com">tadpoleranch@gmail.com</a>
Christmas Bird Count: Dan Waggoner	--	<a href="mailto:danwags57@gmail.com">danwags57@gmail.com</a>
Webmaster: Andrew Reding	--	<a href="mailto:aareding@gmail.com">aareding@gmail.com</a>
Website:	<a href="http://admiraltyaudubon.org">http://admiraltyaudubon.org</a>	

### Take A Chair?

We have a new Vice President: Bill Vogt stepped up to fill the position (thank you, Bill!). We need Education, Conservation and Publicity Chairs. Please consider applying for one of these important volunteer positions. And in a perfect world, we would have a Hospitality Chair as well.

### Dues News

**Paper newsletter recipients:** Your address label shows the date (month/day/year) your membership expires. If you are over six months late, this will be your final newsletter. If the date disagrees with your records, let us know. **Electronic newsletter recipients** will receive an email reminder. Dues are our chapter's source of operating funds.