



artwork by Steven D'Amato

Volume 47 #1 September 2013

Chelan Ridge Hawk Migration Festival September 14

by Richard Scranton, Wenatchee

North Central Washington is home to some of the most amazing species in the northwest, but many people don't know it is also a major pit stop for hawks flying from Alaska to the southwest and Mexico. This September is a great opportunity to learn about this migration, and get face-to-face with raptors of all shapes and sizes. Join the Methow Valley Ranger District (USFS), North Central Washington Audubon Society, and HawkWatch International for the fourth annual Chelan Ridge Hawk Migration Festival! This festival coincides with the peak of southbound raptor migration at Chelan Ridge - the best place in Washington to view this journey. This family event combines free activities in Pateros with trips to the Chelan Ridge site to learn about and celebrate raptors as they journey to winter territories. Please join us for the 2013 festival!

Activities for the whole family include

- Free! **Environmental education** and interpretation - learn about migrating raptors and the ecosystems on which they depend
- **See live raptors** up close, from the Okanogan Wildlife League
- **Hands-on projects** for kids, including owl pellet dissections.
- **Shop vendors:** arts, books, optics, birding gear, and more

- **Catch shuttles** for field trips to the spectacular Chelan Ridge raptor migration site.



Chelan Ridge sits 5,675 feet above sea level along the flyway for migrating raptors like the uncommon Broad-winged Hawk. Biologists who live at the Ridge during the migration season will tell how birds are studied and tracked. See raptors like Sharp-shinned Hawks as they are banded and released. This is an amazing experience with environmental education and interpretation conducted by an on-site educator and Forest Service personnel. (Please note: field trips are restricted to people ages 11 and above.) To reserve a spot on the shuttle to Chelan Ridge, go to the registration page on the NCWAS website.

More Birding Opportunities: Join other birders on a field trip to Wells Wildlife Area, located between Brewster and Bridgeport. Walk through managed shrubby uplands and riparian habitat, on dirt roads.

Target birds include migrating warblers, thrushes, and waterfowl. Some highlights from last year were Warbling Vireo, Gray Catbird, Lazuli Bunting, Orange-crowned Warbler and Palm Warbler! This trip meets in Pateros Memorial Park, at 8:00 a.m. for a 8:10 am departure. and returns to Pateros at noon. Participants will carpool (about a 15 minute drive) to the Wells Wildlife Area parking lot, where a Discovery Pass is required. Bring sunscreen, a hat and insect repellent. Leaders: Jenny Graevell and Meredith Spencer. Group size limited to 20 people. Sign up by emailing Richard Scranton: rscan@aol.com

...and more **CELEBRATION.....**

A guest speaker Saturday night, September 14, and field trip the following day at **North Cascades Basecamp in Mazama**. For more information please visit the North Cascades Basecamp website. To register for these events, call the Basecamp at 996-2334, or email info@northcascadesbasecamp.com.

Festival information will also be updated on our NCWAS Facebook page. Still have questions? Please email: rscan@aol.com or call Richard Scranton: 421-3166.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE FESTIVAL!

The mission of the
North Central Washington Audubon Society
 is "to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing
 on birds and their habitats, for the benefit of people and
 the biological diversity of North Central Washington."

North Central Washington Audubon Society

Officers, Chairs, Board Members
 President - Jeff Parsons | 548-0181 | jparsons@nwi.net
 Vice President - **VACANT**
 Past President - Mark Oswood | 662-9087 | moswood@nwi.net
 Treasurer - Larry Tobiska | ltobiska@nwi.net
 Secretary - Penny Tobiska - ptobiska@nwi.net
 Conservation - Chris Parsons | 264-4903 | cjparsons@nwi.net
 Education - Mark Oswood | 662-9087 | moswood@nwi.net
 Email Master - Marie Garrett | 669-1800 | breezycanyon@gmail.com
 Field Trips - Jenny Graevell - 679-3531 | avijenee@yahoo.com
 Membership - Heather Findlay | 429-8167 | heather@eaglesun.net
 Newsletter - Teri J Pieper | 630-6224 | teripieper@hotmail.com
 Programs - Penny Tobiska - ptobiska@nwi.net
 Science Officer - Don McIvor | 997-9456 | puma@methownet.com
 Web Master - Treesa Hertzell | webmaster@ncwaudubon.org
 At large - Rachel Scown | 860-6676 | raeplay6@aol.com
 Art Campbell | 996-8168 | rapakivi@methow.com
 Richard Scranton | RScran@aol.com
 Website - www.ncwaudubon.org
 Email - info@ncwaudubon.org
 Mailing address - PO Box 2934 Wenatchee, WA 98807
North Central Washington Audubon Society is on Facebook too
 Bird Sightings - birdsightings@ncwaudubon.org
All phone numbers in the Wild Phlox are area code 509 unless otherwise indicated.

Audubon Council of WA

Register now for the 2013 annual meeting of Audubon Council of Washington (ACOW). This one-day meeting will be held on October 5, at Bellevue College, just off I-90 in Bellevue. Kathy Dale, Director of Citizen Science for National Audubon Society, will be the key note speaker for the event. Her presentation will focus on the role of citizen science in the Audubon network and demonstrate what Audubon citizen science programs have accomplished towards bird conservation to date and how they will be used in the future, including an introduction to the new Climate Modeling Project being revealed in October. Expect a dynamic and interactive day of discussion and collaboration around conservation priorities involving citizen science, the backbone of our conservation success. Afternoon workshops will provide tips, tricks, and best practices on a variety of chapter challenges including capacity building, grassroots advocacy, social media, education engagement, fundraising, and more. Meeting details, including the agenda, accommodations, and map may be found on the Audubon Washington website at <http://wa.audubon.org/events/audubon-council-washington-2013>.

The annual ACOW brings together leaders and members from the 25 Washington State Audubon chapters and Audubon Washington staff for workshops and presentations on a host of topics of interest to Audubon members throughout the state. There will be regional breakout sessions to exchange information and review progress at the state and chapter level.

North Central Washington Audubon Society Wild Phlox Subscription Form

Subscribe to NCW Audubon Wild Phlox One Year, Nine Issues \$15
Separate subscription to Phlox NOT needed for NAS members in good standing
 Donation: I would like to support NCW Audubon's programs of education and conservation. Enclosed is my additional donation of \$_____
 Please do **NOT** acknowledge my donation in the Wild Phlox
 Memorial in the name of _____

Please mail check and form to Post Office Box 2934 Wenatchee, WA 98807-2934. **Please Print Clearly.**

Name _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone number _____ Email _____

Planned Giving: Please consider giving a planned gift to NCW Audubon to support our education and conservation programs for generations to come. Your charitable gift will be tax deductible. It could go to an endowment fund or to a specific program or as a gift to our general operating fund. Remember, your gift to North Central Washington Audubon will go to fund programs in North Central Washington!

To join the National Audubon Society which also includes a subscription to the Wild Phlox, please see their website at www.audubon.org or drop us a note and we will send you a form for a special rate introductory membership.

Here at home, we heard and saw a flock of Canada Geese a couple evenings ago. There must have been at least a hundred of them. That says to me that summer is fading and these geese, probably born in this valley, will soon be on the move. Shortening days must trigger something in the wild animals that tells them it's time to prepare for colder weather. We see few swallows now but lots of Common Nighthawks. Not enough to consume the yellow jackets, unfortunately. They are brutal this year. It is nearly impossible to enjoy an evening meal on the porch. Osprey and Bald Eagles are learning to forage from their patient parents. It can't be an easy thing to teach when those youngsters are screeching to be fed just as they were in the nest.

We just returned from a summer vacation – a car camping trip through the Okanogan Highlands to NE Washington and into SE British Columbia. We had lots of fun but were struck by the sheer lack of birds or any other wildlife in BC. We visited places with good habitat and the weather, while sometimes stormy, was mostly sunny and warm. There were LOTS of bugs for birds to eat and yet we saw nearly no swallows, no nighthawks, rarely a chickadee or nuthatch. The only raptors were Bald Eagles and Osprey and one small falcon or accipiter in a campground. One Provincial park was overrun with crows. We saw a few geese on the big water and occasionally Common Mergansers and Mallards but no coots or grebes. And while we were in the Okanogan Highlands, just south of the border, we saw many birds and a great diversity of species. In Canada we also did not see many mammals either – no ungulates, bears, and hardly any chipmunks and squirrels. We did see ground squirrels on one high altitude hike and at another trailhead we were warned to wrap chicken wire around our car if we were to stay overnight (we weren't) because the porcupines would eat the brake linings.

At our last campground we learned about western toads. Summit Lake Provincial Park is a stronghold for this amphibian and the young, penny-sized toads emerge from the water to cross the campground and then the highway where they get killed by the thousands. Young people from BC Hydro were building a plastic net fence to try to funnel the toads to safer crossings and if it works, they might eventually build some kind of culvert or other crossing to prevent toad carnage. At times, they said, the road surface was so slick with the dead toads that it required sanding.

I am happy to report that the Common Loons at Lost Lake are doing well this year with two young that are nearly as big as the parents!



Common Loon at Lost Lake in the Okanogan Highlands photo by Teri J Pieper

NCW Recent Bird Sightings

compiled by Teri J Pieper, Methow Valley

It's been a busy summer for birding around NCW. Washington Ornithological Society kicked it off in June with their annual conference based in Okanogan County this year. Highlights included a Northern Waterthrush, Great Gray Owl and American Redstarts among others. I have yet to see the final list of birds seen during that long weekend but I can well imagine that it was impressive.

Birding reports to NCWABirds and other email lists include: a 'boreal' American Avocet located in a peat bog near Bonaparte Lake at the end of June; Red-eyed Vireo, Purple Finch, and a Least Flycatcher along the Big Valley trail, west of Winthrop; Least Flycatcher, Veery, American Redstart near the Sanpoil River in Ferry County; Northern Hawk Owls near Freezeout Pass above Winthrop; Clay-colored Sparrows along Nine Mile Road between Oroville and Chesaw; Gray-crowned Rosy-finches and White-tailed Ptarmigan at Slate Peak in far northwestern Okanogan County; a Boreal Owl at Lone Frank Pass in Okanogan County between Winthrop and Oroville; White-tailed

Ptarmigan, Prairie Falcon, American Kestrel and Black-backed Woodpeckers on the trail to Tiffany Mountain, also above Winthrop; a Red-necked Phalarope in the Twin Lakes area between Twisp and Winthrop; Anna's Hummingbirds are turning up at feeders in the Methow Valley already; a singing Winter Wren at 6200' in the upper Twisp drainage in early August; 14 species of shorebirds including Stilt Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Spotted Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Killdeer, Semipalmated Plover, Long-billed Dowitchers, Red-necked Phalarope, and Avocets in the Cameron Lake Road area; the Ospreys have fledged in the Wenatchee area.

You may wonder why so many reports are from the northern reaches of our four-county area. Well, that is where the reports are coming in from. I'd love to know what folks are seeing in Chelan and Douglas Counties and along the Columbia.

Sketching and eBirding Go Hand in Hand

by Vicki Cibicki, Cashmere

I was walking out of the Cashmere library one afternoon and a bird fell out of the sky right in front of me. Looking up, I saw an American Kestrel chasing a large hawk. I surmised that the hawk had released its catch as it was trying to thwart its attacker. Being a birder, I was ecstatic. I quickly took the downed finch home and sketched it into my journal, measuring it and noting distinguishing field marks. I've been nature journaling and drawing a little over a year now. Heather Murphy taught a portion of the Wenatchee Naturalists Program on how to record and sketch field observations.

I also actively input my birding observations into eBird, a citizen science project for recording bird species. eBird provides guidance in identifying the difference between a House Finch, a Cassin's Finch and a Purple Finch. So, to have a finch that I could closely examine was fantastic. The classic red headband that is a distinguishing mark for a House Finch was clearly present in my dead specimen.

I took a photo of my sketch and entered it on eBird. You can find it by going to eBird/explore data/range and point map. Enter the species (House Finch or accipiter sp.), then enter location (Cashmere, WA). Once you've arrived at the map of Cashmere select the blue teardrop near downtown. Click to look at my checklist for 1/16/13 and there's my sketch!

eBird has also helped me to identify unknowns. I made a sketch of a duck that I saw at the Cashmere Juvenile Pond and submitted it on eBird. A few days later, I received a phone call from a Washington state eBird reviewer. He said, "Based on your sketch, that appears to be a Green-winged Teal." Sure enough, at my next visit as I approached quietly, it was definitely a Green-winged Teal. You can search for that checklist under duck sp.

I've also made a sketch of a Sharp-shinned Hawk that my brother-in-law found dead in his garden. When you can analyze something like that up-close and in-depth, it makes science so much more fascinating. That drawing, too, is in eBird.

Susan Ballinger, the head mind behind the Wenatchee Naturalists Program recommended submitting observations

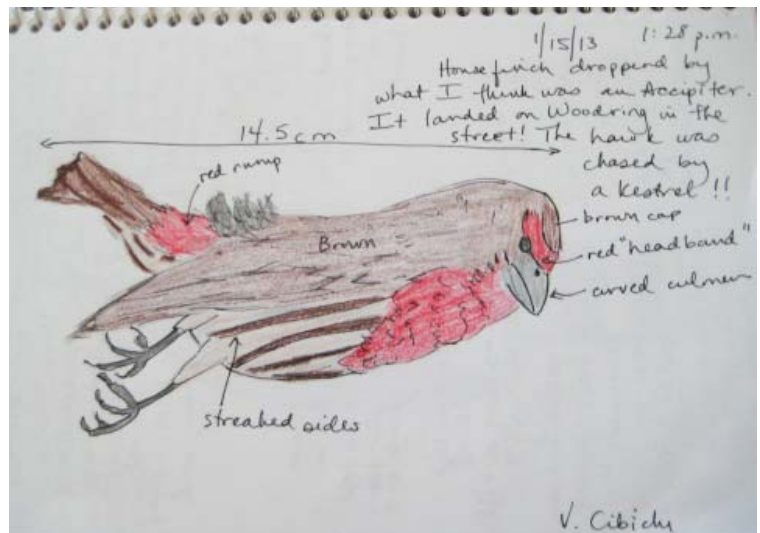
for the Great Backyard Bird Count. I made that first entry back in 2012, and I have been hooked on eBird ever since. Part of the Naturalists Program incorporated traveling to a field site weekly. I chose the Juvie Pond and have made regular visits. During the winter, Heather questioned me about a huge nest in a cottonwood tree at the Juvie Pond. Keeping a close watch on it, on February 15, I saw a pair of eagles in it. Now I'm just waiting for the eaglets to fledge. See what I've seen by searching under Bald Eagle in eBird.

eBird is a powerful birding tool. I use it to research places I'm going to visit. If you do a bar chart for the area you are visiting, you can obtain a list of potential birds that might be in the area for the time of year you are going. To even hone in further, I look at "departures" under "explore data" and see what has been sighted within the last few days. Looking at departures also shows you favorite birding sites to explore.

eBird also lets you memorialize your observations with pictures of fellow birders, deer skeletons, bird tracks in the snow and of course the birds themselves.

Happy birding!

Editor's note - Vicki sent this article early in the summer. Since then she did see the eaglets emerge and perhaps by the time you read this they have fledged and are learning to forage on their own



Federation of Western Outdoors Clubs at Barn Beach

Activities include: September 13, from 6-7 pm at The River Haus at Barn Beach Reserve, 347 Division Street, Leavenworth, featuring hors d'oeuvres and light desserts and a no host bar. Meet Estella Leopold, UW Professor Emeritus of Biology and youngest daughter of Aldo Leopold who is the father of the conservation movement and author of *A Sand County Almanac*. All are welcome, by donation. Followed by Movie Night in the BARN. 7:00 pm *Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a land ethic for our time* introduced by Estella Leopold, followed at 8:15 pm by *Out of the Mist: Olympic Wilderness Stories - "experience the magic of the wild Olympics."* Pre-register with Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs (FWOC) Conference or pay \$10 at the door.

FWOC Conference "Change and New Challenges for Conservation". September 14 from 9 - 5 at The Barn at Barn Beach Reserve, Conference \$35 (includes lunch & social). Register by September 8. 7-9 pm; Banquet at Mountain Springs Lodge \$50. Register by August 30. Register for the dinner and/or conference at www.federationofwesternoutdoorclubs.org

Teaching Young Naturalists

by Christine Olson, Tonasket

Turning children into young naturalists is something that happened by accident. I work with students enrolled in Tonasket Outreach, an alternative public education program that allows most instruction to occur in the home. We offer classes one to two days each week, and when there was a large enrollment of primary students a couple of years ago, I knew I needed to focus their science instruction on building inquiry skills and helping them understand seasonal rhythms.

Among other observations, I decided that keeping track of bird sightings over the course of the school year would be a good way for them to understand one more aspect of the yearly cycle. I beefed up the field guides and reference books in the classroom library. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology's book of birdsong turned out to be the biggest hit; students spent free time poring over the illustrations and audio sounds, and we spent regular sessions playing "guess-which-bird-is-making-this-sound." I saw the power of this study grow over the year. Students who before had

explained they had seen a "big bird" or a "black bird" now could identify quite a few species. And when a mom reported that one girl asked for binoculars and a bird field guide for her birthday and spent hours observing from a rock in their pasture, I knew this focus had moved to the realm of lifelong learning and a real passion.

I've had those same students for several years now, and we've built our knowledge by graphing and predicting bird sightings, continuing to work on birding by ear, watching life cycle development on a nest cam, and participating in Cornell's citizen science project called "Celebrate Urban Birds." At the end of last year, we expanded our interest in the natural world to include plants and other animal species, and students partnered up with adult volunteers to explore something of their own choosing. Every year brings new extensions as students grow in their interests and abilities. It's a thrill to work and learn together and to know that students are developing skills they'll use well into the future.

Become a Wenatchee Naturalist

by Susan Ballinger, Wenatchee

The Wenatchee River Institute invites you to embark on a wonder-filled adventure by becoming a Wenatchee Naturalist. The next offering of this Wenatchee-based program begins in September, and is in partnership with the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust. Learn more and register at: <http://www.wenatcheeriverinstitute.org/about-us/programs/wenatchee-naturalist>

Over the twelve-week course, you'll make new friends, discover lovely local places you'll want to visit again, and gain new eyes for the natural wonders of North Central Washington. This class is designed to inspire a deeper connection to the wonders of our valley and to bring new sources of joy to your everyday life. Throughout the course, students are introduced to an array of local conservation organizations and citizen science projects, to make it fun and easy to select twenty plus hours of volunteer work, to complete after finishing the coursework. Teachers can sign up for fifty clock hours (free!) and have the option to do volunteering within their

classroom. The Wenatchee Naturalist mission is to cultivate awareness, understanding, and stewardship of the Wenatchee River region by developing an active corps of well-informed community volunteers.

Classes are held on Monday evenings, September 23 - December 9. Four Saturday field trips explore habitats along the White, Entiat, and Wenatchee River corridors, and the Horan Natural Area guided by expert guest scientists. Every class includes hands-on activities and practice using a field journal. Class size is limited to 24 adults and is designed for non-scientists. Cost is \$375 and includes supplies, a field journal, and loaned equipment. Expert guest scientists will share the knowledge both in the classroom and in the field.

Susan Ballinger is the course designer and

instructor. As a biologist, naturalist, and educator, Susan Ballinger is respected for her depth of knowledge and ability to inspire. Raised in Montana, Susan developed a love of the outdoors that led to advanced degrees in Biology and Education and a career-long commitment to making science understandable to the non-scientist. Susan will be happy to answer questions about the Wenatchee Naturalist program. Contact her at 669-7820 or skylinebal@gmail.com



Phil Archibald, guest biologist, teaching a class along the banks of the Entiat River last October

Help Kids Learn about the Natural World at WRI

by Deandra Early, Leavenworth

The Wenatchee River Institute's Youth Education Field Day Program needs your support. It would not be possible without volunteers. Students thrive on the low student-to-teacher-ratio. It is what makes in-depth and hands-on learning possible. We are always looking for people who enjoy sharing their love of the outdoors with children. Fall Field Days begin in September so contact us today! For more information check out our website www.wenatcheeriverinstitute.org/youth-education/volunteers/prospective-volunteers or contact Deandra Early with questions dearly@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org 548-9362.

Annual Bird Food Sale in Pasco Benefits You and Lower Columbia Basin Audubon

by Jenny Graevell, East Wenatchee

Want good prices on the seeds you use to feed birds? Have questions about what or how to feed our feathered friends? In connection with Columbia Grain & Feed in Pasco, Washington, Lower Columbia Basin Audubon will be hosting their Twelfth Annual Bird Seed Sale and Information Day. This year due to the nationwide drought, prices for seed will be higher than normal – but be assured, these will be the best possible prices you will get for this winter's bird feeding season. Based on your purchase amount, Columbia Grain & Feed will make a donation to Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society. They plan to hold

the seed sale in October but the date is not chosen yet – likely will be either October 19 or 26 (outside chance it will be October 12...) they will have a pre-order form available on their website www.lcbas.org posted sometime in mid-September, and it will be in their September newsletter. Also watch their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/lcbas for further information. Hope to see you there!

This is a great opportunity to stock up and save money while doing so. If you are interested, stay tuned to their website. We will also post updates when available on North Central Washington Audubon Society's Facebook page.

Grassland Ecology and Grass Identification

by Julie Ashmore, Okanogan Highlands

Okanogan Highlands Alliance (OHA) announces an opportunity to learn from one of the region's premier grass experts, Don Gayton, who will discuss our local grassland ecology and grass plant identification. Community members do not have to be botanists to enjoy this two-part indoor/outdoor event, as everyone from the greenhorn to the conversant will get something from Don's wealth of knowledge. Topics covered will include grassland types, invasive plants, grazing and fire interactions, and simplified methods of identifying grasses.

During the indoor presentation in the highlands on Saturday morning, Don will provide a brief "flyover" visual description of Pacific Northwest Grasslands ecology and biogeography, and then focus on some of the key Pacific Northwest grass species. A simplified method of identification will be presented, based on four common grass tribes, and the group will then be guided through the basics of grass plant keying using the tribes as a guide. Everyone is welcome to attend the indoor presentation, and pre-registration is required for the outdoor field trip, which will take place immediately afterward. The field trip will include two sites in the Okanogan Highlands and will build on the concepts introduced during the indoor presentation. This is the final outdoor Highland Wonders event of the 2013 season.

Don Gayton, M.Sc., P.Ag., has extensive experience with our region's grasslands and has published a number of technical articles about them. He is passionate about sharing his knowledge of our precious and endangered grasslands. Don is an award winning author. His books include *The Wheatgrass Mechanism*, *Landscapes of the Interior*, *Interwoven Wild* and *Okanogan Odyssey*. Stuart McLean describes him as having "the eye of a scientist and the soul of a poet."

Due to the nature of the outdoor part of this event, field trip participation is limited, and priority registration will be offered for OHA members. A waiting list will be generated on a first-come, first-serve basis. To join OHA sign up for this event, email julie@okanoganhighlands.org or call 433-7893.

OHA is a non-profit organization that works to educate the public on watershed issues. The Highland Wonders educational series features the natural history of the Okanogan Highlands and surrounding areas. OHA's Education Program, which is offered free of charge, is designed to build the capacity of the community to steward natural habitats and resources by helping to develop an informed and empowered population. Donations are always welcome. Details are provided on OHA's website: www.okanoganhighlands.org/education.

Notes from Mazama

by Bob Spiwak, Mazama

The Mallards have returned. The happy family, mom and six kids went elsewhere for about ten days. On the last day of July, at dusk she flew in and landed on the pond, stayed a few moments probably searching for danger, then flew off. The next day there were six well-developed ducklings about half her size. It was about this time that the Wood Ducks disappeared, apparently for good unless they are going to give us a surprise as well.

It's fun and educational to watch the ducks. The thing I was taught when a hunter was that if two people entered a blind and one left visibly to the quarry, they would be oblivious to the remaining person. This was the case today when without a blind I sat in the usual chair on the deck overhanging the pond and Gloria came out to join me. The ducks, once skittish, now merely drift away behind Momma who gives them some kind of signal inaudible to our human (or aged) ears. They are getting accustomed to us and react in Pavlovian fashion when we throw the cracked corn into the pond, even when they are at least fifty yards away in the tall water weeds.

We had another learning experience with the Wood Ducks. I had been told by a local biologist or had read online or something like that, that Wood Ducks do not dabble, or go upended and head-first under the water seeking food. They do. We witnessed it. The difference between these and the Mallards seem to be the depth of the water. The



Mallards waiting for a free meal photo by Teri J Pieper

woodies were never observed to dive in the deeper water, but knowing that the corn was in the shallow edges, half the length of their bodies would disappear when they dabbled.

Speaking of bodies, at their peak at the end of spring, we counted 13 of the beauties. What with bullying by two Mallard males and a couple of amorous woodie guys, the numbers diminished ultimately to only a hen.

It is August 4, mid-afternoon and we are being blasted with thunder bombs, some rain and no visible lightning in this storm. Motorcycle and bike riders both have stopped, under our spreading willow tree at the head of the drive to don rain gear as the showers progress. The mallards could care less, even the thunder does not daunt them.

Otherwise, bird song is just about nil, with an occasional Veery trill, at times the hooting of an owl. This brings to mind the Methow's Big Valley all-season trail. One of our neighbors is an ardent runner and twice in the past week she was attacked by two owls, smaller than Great Grey, but tough enough that one bonked her on the head. Luckily the claws must have been sheathed. Speculation among the tens of thousands of "experts" in our area was that there were babies nearby, possibly on the ground. A few years ago, I found one, a Barred Owl just standing on a trail in the woods across the road. I wanted so much for it to be a Spotted Owl, but viewing my photos, the orno-experts called it Barred. I was sad about that. Boo-Whooooo.

Bird the Trail with your iPhone

by Jen Syrowitz, Audubon Washington

Found yourself with an unexpected free afternoon or out-of-town weekend company? Of course you are going birding! But where will you find the nearest and best habitat? What sites could you combine for fabulous sightings? Quick! Grab your iPhone, and download the new app for the Great Washington State Birding Trail.

For over a decade, Audubon Washington worked with local chapters and other experts to describe nearly four hundred birding locations along seven driving loops, covering every habitat from Neah Bay to Newport, from the Blue Mountains to the mouth of the Columbia River – and everywhere in between.

Know where to go in your neighborhood? Or across the state? Simply launch the app and click "Stops Near Me" for a list of nearby birding areas with distances from your location. Select a stop to see a pushpin on an interactive map plus information on habitat, trails, expected species, and nearby amenities. Need directions? It's just one click away.

Looking for specific species? Use the search function to find locations recommended for feathered specialties like White-throated Swift or Black Oystercatcher. Download the app free from iTunes (for Apple devices) which includes six stops on each loop (42 total): <http://ow.ly/nH8g7>. You can access remaining stops for \$1.99 per loop, or just \$9.99 for all seven loops! Grab your phone, your keys and binoculars – and head out onto the Great Washington State Birding Trail. Good birding to you!



Great Blue Herons are often seen along the Great Washington Birding Trail photo by Teri J Pieper

September Wild Phlox

North Central Washington Audubon Society
Post Office Box 2934
Wenatchee, WA 98807

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
WENATCHEE, WA
Permit No. 21

North Central Washington Audubon Society Calendar

Celebrate Raptors as they journey south to their winter territories. Story on Page 1.	Chelan Ridge Hawk Migration Festival	September 14
---	--------------------------------------	--------------

Delivery Options for *The Wild Phlox*

Please print clearly

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Please deliver my copy of *The Wild Phlox* via US Postal Service Mail _____

OR

Please deliver my copy of *The Wild Phlox* via email _____

Email address _____

Please mail this form to NCW Audubon Society, PO Box 2934, Wenatchee, WA 98807

OR

Email the information to ncwaudubon@gmail.com

Thank you.



Printed on Recycled Paper

Visit the NCW Audubon Society website for current info at www.ncwaudubon.org