



Black Hills Audubon Society

Olympia, Washington

Volume 39,
Number 5

September/October 2008

From the President

This coming year, Black Hills Audubon has a number of plans. We are expanding our education program—with presentations in schools, Birding 101 classes (see article in this *Echo*), and programs for groups such as senior citizens. Conservation activities include legal efforts to protect wetlands and other wildlife habitat, partnering with Capitol Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, Friends of Rocky Prairie, and other conservation organizations in an effort to preserve the Rocky Prairie area, and with the Nisqually Delta Association to protect the shorelines in Nisqually Delta region. Our popular programs on third Thursdays will range from close to home — the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge—to about as far as you can go—the birds of Singapore—as well as updates on the diverse wildlife species of Washington State. Field trips are scheduled into the Black Hills and to the Coast.

Our past year has been busy, too. Not only have we participated in the national Christmas Bird Count and in a local birdathon, but we have conducted frequent field trips—sometimes as many as six in one month

In this issue of *The Echo*:

Conservation News: Keeneland Park	p 2
Birding In Earnest	p 3
Birding 101 Class	p 3
Field Trip Report: Capitol Forest.....	p 4
Fall Bird Feeder Cleaning	p 4
Field Trip/Event Descriptions.....	p 5
Field Trip Report: Paradise	p 6
BHAS Calendar	p 7
BHAS Roster	p 8
Membership Form	p 9
We Need Your Input	p 10

— to local hot spots in Thurston, Mason, and Lewis Counties, the Pacific Coast, Skagit and Samish Flats, and eastern Washington. Evening programs ranged from the fascinating life history of marbled murrelets to wildlife in Antarctica.

We are working on a lot of other issues—land use planning, transferable development rights, asphalt plant siting, urban forest preservation—to name a

Continued on next page

Thursday, September 18 Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge Estuary Restoration

Jean Takakawa, NWR manager, will update us on the ongoing estuary restoration project at Nisqually—the science behind the project and an update on project construction, including which trails will remain open at what times.

BHAS membership meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at the Capitol Museum Coach House, 211 W. 21st Street, in Olympia. Social hour is at 7pm, with programs beginning promptly at 7:30. Driving directions: From I-5 in Olympia, take Exit 105 following the State Capital/City Center route. After the tunnel, turn left (south) onto Capital Way. After 7 blocks, turn right on 21st Avenue. The museum is two blocks down on the left. The Coach House meeting room and adjacent parking are behind the Museum building.

Thursday, Oct 16th Birds of Singapore

Founding member of East Lake Washington Audubon Society, Len Steiner will show his own slides of his visit to Singapore and environs, stressing natural history and the great variety of birds to be seen. Since his retirement a few years ago, Len has traveled the world and says this is one of his favorite birding spots.

Conservation News: Update on Keeneland Park

Since the Fall of 2004, BHAS has been working to help ensure that Keeneland Park, the proposed cluster development adjacent to the Deschutes River in East Olympia, will be developed in the most environmentally responsible manner possible, given the applicant's current proposal.

The site contains high-quality wildlife habitat and extensive wetland with a rare bog. One concern about this proposed development is how much of a buffer should be required to protect the wetland. Of the two "pods" proposed for Keeneland Park, the north "pod" is closer to the Class I wetland. All of the houses in the proposed plat are on relatively small lots, each with an individual septic system.

In April 2008, and again in the preliminary plat hearing held July 14, BHAS presented scientific testimony by hydrogeologist Denis Erikson that nutrients from the development might enter the wetlands via the seeps and springs of the upper aquifer. BHAS is concerned that if nutrients reach the wetlands, the wetlands could be compromised. BHAS asked the Hearing Examiner to require a study of drainage of the seeps and springs from the upper aquifer to the wetlands before making a preliminary plat decision.

In the preliminary plat hearing for Keeneland Park, held July 14, 2008, BHAS supported the Thurston County Staff report, which was prepared for the hearing. The Staff report recommended that the buffer for the high-quality Class I wetlands be 250 feet rather than the standard 200 feet. The County's Development Services believes that Best Available Science justifies the fifty-foot buffer increase. In ad-

dition, the Department of Ecology supports increasing the buffers beyond the standard 200 feet.

In order to increase the buffer, the number of houses would need to be reduced by 22 total (twenty-one fewer houses in the north pod and one fewer in the south pod). In the July 14 hearing, BHAS supported the Staff's recommendation of 77 houses rather than the applicant's proposed 99 houses.

However, the developer-applicant has asked that the buffer for the rare bog be reduced from 200' so that 7 of the proposed 99 houses could be squeezed in.

On July 21, 2008, the Department of Ecology denied the water rights for this proposed development. The applicant has indicated that it will appeal the DOE decision.

On August 12, knowing that a decision about the preliminary plat and buffer size was expected to come from the Hearing Examiner by August 18, 2008, attorney Dave Bricklin made a motion for BHAS to the Hearing Examiner to reopen the Hearing. BHAS also requested that the July 21 DOE water rights decision be placed in the record. And, because of the DOE decision, BHAS asked that the Preliminary Plat be denied.

On August 13, Mr. Driscoll, the Thurston County Hearing Examiner, requested that the applicant and the County respond to the BHAS motion by August 20. A decision for all aspects of the preliminary plat is expected August 29, 2008. By the time you see this article in *The Echo*, some decisions may have been handed down. Stay tuned! 🦋

Submitted by Sue Danver

President's column

(From page 1)

few, but more of that over the year as each issue comes up. Thinking for years ahead, we now have in place procedures for a Conservation Legacy Fund for gifts and bequests.

Each March, as many of you know and enjoy, we hold an annual dinner and auction, where we announce the Conservationist of the Year Award (in 2008 to Friends of Rocky Prairie) and the Education Award (to Tom Schooley and Tim Sweeney for their local TV program *Birdwise Magazine*). And twice a year we provide an opportunity to get those dirty bird feeders taken care of, returning each time

about 200 clean feeders ready for their backyard avian diners.

Feeder cleaning—see article on page 4 for the next cleaning day on October 4 — is just one of the ways in which members can help out by volunteering. The education program provides several opportunities—developing school presentations and making arrangements with area teachers; our conservation program can use help in following certain environmental issues. Staffing is needed for information tables at local events. If you would like to volunteer, you can call the related committee chair, or the Black Hills Audubon number 360-352-7299. Thanks! 🦋

Sam Merrill, BHAS President

Birding in Earnest, Sept 2008

By Bill Shelmerdine

To report sightings call 866-9106 or email at georn1@hotmail.com

BIE is back after a brief break of a couple of months that has turned into something like a couple of years.

Return has provided an opportunity for some reflection. Recently I have questioned the usefulness of this segment considering the availability of on-line resources such as *Tweeters* and *ebird*. Short of first hand reports, these can be good sources of information.

Hopefully this article can provide some local context and perhaps some interpretation about apparent trends in our area (in short, my speculation or wild guesses as to what these local sightings or observations might mean). Such reports are fundamental, so send in your observations. Furthermore, observations of trends from long-term record keeping can be important and provide useful context, so I encourage readers to write them down and pass them on.

Local reports for the summer have been a bit lean, but still there is always the potential for unusual birds and notable sightings. The following are some of the most interesting I am aware of.

Five **Brown Pelicans** were seen in Dana passage in mid June for what seems like a very early sighting for that species (I believe the earliest I have on record for our area). And where there are Brown Pelicans, can **Heerman's Gull** be far behind? An adult at Cooper Point on 8/1 was notable and also seems early. As long as we are talking early, a **Common Tern** on July 27 in Eld Inlet was my earliest (Fall) sighting yet. And to finish with the gulls and terns, on July 20 I finally located my first **Bonaparte's Gull** of the season for our area, a single on Cooper Point. By July 27, 60 Bonaparte's Gulls had joined 5 species of gulls and many **Caspian Terns** for a notable increase in activity on South Sound waters. This followed a pretty quiet period earlier in the month. Good numbers of candlefish, herring, and possibly northern anchovy in the area seemed like a good sign and a significant attraction.

Brown Pelicans, Heerman's Gulls, early sightings, what can it all mean? This is where observations

and record keeping over time pays off. For now, I will indulge in wild speculation (a few observations does not a pattern make). Surely Brown Pelicans have increased dramatically over population lows in the 60s – 80s. Is this apparently early dispersal northward a reflection of abundance and recovery, food availability (or lack of it), climate changes (currently always a tempting source of speculation)? Hum...

A **Yellow-breasted Chat** was found near Tenino by Paul Hicks in July. Very rare in our area in the past, in more recent times this species has been reported annually. Could it be better observer coverage, habitat, population shifts, something related to climate, or perhaps Paul just has these guys (or this guy) dialed in? With good record keeping time may tell.

Southbound shorebirds started showing up in late June. A **Baird's Sandpiper** at Nisqually in July was a nice find for Ruth Sullivan. Four **Red-necked Phalaropes** were in Squaxin Passage on 8/1.

Fall migration is just coming into full swing. Get out there and check it out, and don't forget to take notes and report what you find to me at 866-9106 or email at georn1@hotmail.com. Good birding...🦋



Birding 101 offered in October

Learn the basics of birding and bird identification in a four week class which includes two field trips. The book, *Finding Your Wings* by Burt Guttman, will be provided and is included in the cost of the class. Class meets four consecutive Monday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00pm in Room 101 at the Olympia Center – October 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th. Field trips take place on October 26th and November 2nd. Cost is \$45.00.

Reserve your space by calling Debbie Nickerson at 754-5397 or emailing her at debranick@gmail.com. You may also send a check to Black Hills Audubon with your contact information noting it is payment for the class. Class is limited to 20 persons. 🦋

Capitol Forest Birdathon

Field Trip Report from May 18, 2008

Lonnie Somers and Jim Pruske led a party of nine birders into Capitol Forest. We found many bird species at the Rock Candy Trailhead but the road was blocked for further access because of winter storm damage. We then entered the forest by the Sherman Valley road and birded along the C-Line, D-1000, and D-Line, always keeping our maps close at hand. We concluded our trip along the D-Line where the Cedar Creek was showing off its spring splendor. Several of our party also explored the Bob Bammert grove trail.

Before departing the forest at mid-afternoon we had managed to call a **Northern Pygmy-Owl** out into the open where we all had excellent views. We all saw **Red Crossbills**, **Gray Jays**, and **Evening Grosbeaks**. We saw both **Hermit** and **Swainson's Thrushes** alongside the road. At about 1700 feet elevation, near the old abandoned Wedekinc campground, we found several **Hermit Warblers** singing along with more common warbler species.

Fall Bird Feeder Cleaning October 4th

On October 4th, bring your dirty feeders and have them cleaned for \$5.00 each at Wild Birds Unlimited on Cooper Point Road in the Cooper Point Commons shopping center. Cleaning takes place between 9am and 3pm with the last feeders accepted at 2:30pm.

We thank Ruth Pagel and her staff at WBU for continuing to host this important fundraiser and Top Foods for their continued support by providing us the hot water needed for cleaning. The bacteria which can build up in dirty feeders is harmful to birds and could kill them if feeders are not cleaned and disinfected regularly.

I am in need of several volunteers to help scrub feeders in the parking lot behind the WBU store. Good conversation, snacks and lunch are provided to all who can help us with this event. Thank you to all who continue to support this event through having their feeders cleaned or getting their own hands dirty helping us that day. We cannot do this without you! Contact Debbie Nickerson if you are able to volunteer some time that day. 🐦

American Dippers were seen near a bridge over Cedar Creek, and Lonnie located their nest. By trip's end we had a tally of forty-four forest bird species. Pledges based on our tally had also provided contributions to the Birdathon of Black Hills Audubon Society.

There were also lessons in Flora to be enjoyed, for we had examined a Hemlock stand where primitive Club moss and Liverworts grew at the forest floor edge. We found Alders, Maples, Cedars and Douglas-Firs at their best in the Bob Bammert Grove. At days end, we all had a better idea of how Department of Natural Resources was managing Capitol Forest for both present and future generations of Washington State residents. 🐦

Bird species seen:

Turkey Vulture	American Dipper
Red-tailed Hawk	Golden-crowned Kinglet
California Quail	Swainson's Thrush
Band-tailed Pigeon	Hermit Thrush
Northern Pygmy-Owl	American Robin
Rufus Hummingbird	Varied Thrush
Red-breasted Sapsucker	Cedar Waxwing
Hairy Woodpecker	Eurasian Starling
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Orange-crowned Warbler
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	Yellow Warbler
Gray Jay	Hermit Warbler
Steller's Jay	Common Yellowthroat
American Crow	Wilson's Warbler
Raven	Song Sparrow
Tree Swallow	White-crowned Sparrow
Barn Swallow	Dark-eyed Junco
Black-capped Chickadee	Western Tanager
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	Black-headed Grosbeak
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Purple Finch
Brown Creeper	Red Crossbill
House Wren	Pine Siskin
Winter Wren	Evening Grosbeak

Total Species = 44

For questions, please contact: Jim Pruske,
PO Box 3656, Lacey WA 98509-3656
(360) 459-3655
pruskjrp@dfw.wa.gov

Correction:

In the July-August issue of *The Echo*, we incorrectly identified the Hearings Examiner involved in the Quality Rock Product cast as William Driscoll. It should have said James Driscoll. 🐦

Field Trip and Event Descriptions

September 13th, Saturday, 7:30 am to evening.

**Tokeland, Bottle Beach, Midway Beach
Leader: Phil Kelley**

Phil will go to Bottle Beach, (which has recently undergone a major transformation by Washington State Parks), Midway Beach, Tokeland and other spots along the way. This trip is looking for the usual migrating shorebirds, other birds normally seen along this route, and any rarities that might be found along the way. High tide is about 1:00 pm. Meet at Mud Bay Park and Ride, prepared to leave at 7:30 am. We will not return until early evening. There is a 4 car limit. Please call Phil at 360-459-1499 to reserve your spot.

**September 18, Thursday, 7-9pm,
Membership Meeting at Capitol
Museum Coach House**

See program description on page 1.

**Sunday, September 21st,
8 am
2nd Annual Patrick
Sullivan Memorial Walk
Nisqually National
Wildlife Refuge.**

Last year in September, just after Patrick Sullivan died, several of us from BHAS took an unscheduled spontaneous walk at Nisqually honoring Patrick in our minds. We shared stories and memories about Patrick, and enjoyed the birds he loved so much. We decided then that we would like to continue the tradition each year. This walk at Nisqually is again in his honor. For those of you who miss him, miss his posts to Tweeters, or just wish you had known him, please feel free to join us. There is no "leader" but several BHAS members will be there. Meet at the Visitor's Center overlook at 8 am.

**September 27th, Saturday, 8:30 am to evening.
Tokeland, Bottle Beach, Midway Beach and environs.
Leader: Scott Morrison**

This is a follow-up to Phil Kelley's September 13th Tokeland trip. We'll see what kinds of changes in the migration pattern have occurred. High tide is

at 12:40 pm, so we'll leave the Mud Bay Park and Ride at 8:30 am, and then stop at a couple of spots along the way. Call Scott Morrison at 360-412-1260 to reserve a place on the trip. Limited to 3 vehicles and 12-15 people. Let him know if you are willing to drive.

September 28th, Sunday, 9 am to late afternoon.

**Exploring Capitol Forest—Fall
Leaders: Jim Pruske and Lonnie Somer**

Spend the day exploring Capitol Forest. We will be searching for birds that utilize forest habitat after the breeding season. Gray Jays, Hermit Thrushes, Varied Thrushes, Fox Sparrows, and woodpeckers are expected. As in the spring, we will attempt to find Northern Pygmy Owls and Mountain Quail. Unique elements of Capitol Forest flora will be examined, and there will be an emphasis on mushrooms.

If anyone has special knowledge or tips about Capitol Forest, please feel free to contact Jim (459-3656) or Lonnie at wheelermombi@comcast.net.

Meet at Mud Bay Park and Ride at 9:00 am. This trip is limited to 3 cars. Call BHAS at 360-352-7299 for reservations.

October 5th, Sunday, 9 am to late afternoon.

**Skokomish Birds and Mushrooms
Leader: Jim Pruske**

Spend the day exploring the Skokomish River Valley, and the Brown Creek entrance into Olympic National Forest. A special attempt will be made to find American Dippers. Many other bird species that spend the fall near river and forest will be found. We will search for mushrooms near Brown Creek Campground. About 25 fungi species can be found, including Gold and White Chantrelles. Bring a full lunch, old hiking boots for the forest, and of course, rain gear. Meet at Mud Bay Park and Ride at 9:00 am. A stop will be made at the George Adams Salmon Hatchery parking lot at 9:45 to meet anyone who lives near Shelton. The trip is limited to 5 cars. Call BHAS at 360-352-7299 to register. If you have questions, you can call Jim at 459-3656.

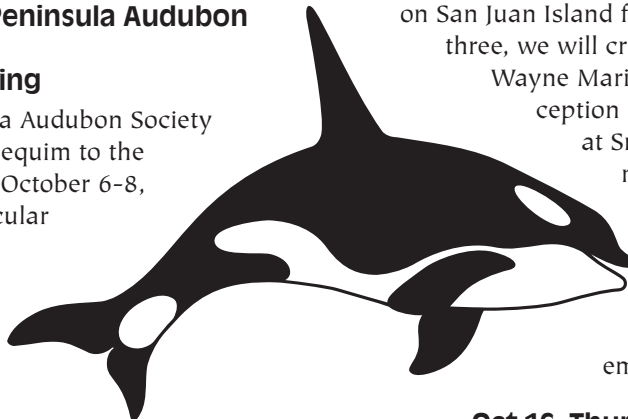
Continued on page 6

Upcoming Field Trips

From previous page

October 6-8, Monday-Wednesday, offered by Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society San Juan Islands Birding

Join the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society this fall for a three-day "Sequim to the San Juan Islands Cruise", October 6-8, 2008, through the spectacular San Juan Archipelago. We will depart from John Wayne Marina aboard the MV Glacier Spirit (a 65-foot motor vessel, well-known from our many cruises around Protection Island), and cruise to Roche Harbor Resort; then touring various sites on



San Juan Island for either birding or sightseeing. On day two, we will cruise onward for a mid-day visit to the Sucia Island State Park for a walk-about and picnic lunch, returning to Roche Harbor Resort on San Juan Island for the second night. On day three, we will cruise back home again to John Wayne Marina by way of dramatic Deception Pass, pausing for a close look at Smith Island for birds and sea mammals. Look for registration materials on our website (www.olympicpeninsulaudubon.org). For additional information, call 360-681-4076, or email rcoffice@olympus.net

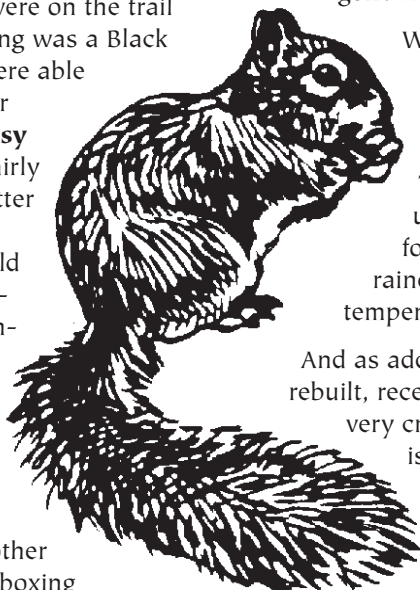
Oct 16, Thursday, 7-9pm, General Membership Meeting

See page 1 for program information. 🦋

Paradise, Mt Rainier

Field Trip Report, August 2, 2008,

A smaller than usual contingent of BHAS members drove to Paradise, leaving Olympia about 6:15 am on August 2nd, hoping to find available parking. That plan worked well, and we were on the trail by about 9:00am. Our first sighting was a Black Bear (safely far away) that we were able to keep in sight along most of our hike. We saw **Gray-crowned Rosy Finches** and **American Pipits** fairly quickly as well, but got much better views later in the day. It was an interesting hike through snow field after snow field, and we were unable to hike as far as we traditionally go. There were no White-tailed Ptarmigan to be seen that day, but on the other hand we had a high record of at least 31 Hoary Marmots, including some family groups! The young were roughhousing with one another in what appeared to be hugging/boxing matches, and we were quite entertained. We also saw a coyote at about 6400 feet in elevation, a first for most of us at Paradise. We saw Yellow Pine Chipmunks and Golden-mantled Ground Squirrels as well.



The wildflowers are later this year due to the snow pack, and were quite different than what we typically see the first weekend of August. They were stunning! The Magenta Paintbrush was glorious, and mixed with Lupine. We had meadows of both Avalanche and Glacier Lilies which usually are already gone when we are there. It was wonderful.

We did see any number of **American Robins**, **Song Sparrows**, a **Fox Sparrow**, **Pine Siskins**, lots of **Juncos**, **Gray Jays** and one **Clark's Nutcracker**.

The weather was not as wonderful as usual, as the top of the mountain was fogged in. On the other hand we were not rained on, the wind was not blowing and the temperature was mild. It was a good day.

And as additional note, we wandered through the rebuilt, recently reopened Paradise Inn which was very crowded, but absolutely lovely. There is a restaurant with a divine sounding menu, rooms available for overnight stays, a deli, a great looking gift shop, a general gathering area, as well as bathrooms!

All field trip leaders, and any person interested in possibly leading a trip, please email me at kristinstewart01@comcast.net 🦋

— Kristin Stewart

BHAS calendar

See Field Trips and Events descriptions for details

September

September 13th, Saturday, Birding field trip to Tokeland, Bottle Beach, and Midway Beach.

September 18th, Thursday, 7pm-9pm, General Membership Meeting.

Sunday, September 21st, 2nd Annual Patrick Sullivan Memorial Walk, at Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge.

September 27th, Saturday, Birding fieldtrip to Tokeland, Bottle Beach, Midway Beach and environs.

September 28th, Sunday, Exploring Capitol Forest—Fall.

October

October 4th, Saturday, Fall Bird Feeder Cleaning.

October 5th, Sunday, Skokomish Birds and Mushrooms.

October 6-8, Monday-Wednesday, San Juan Islands Birding cruise.

Oct 16, Thursday, General Membership Meeting.

Board of Directors 2008-2009

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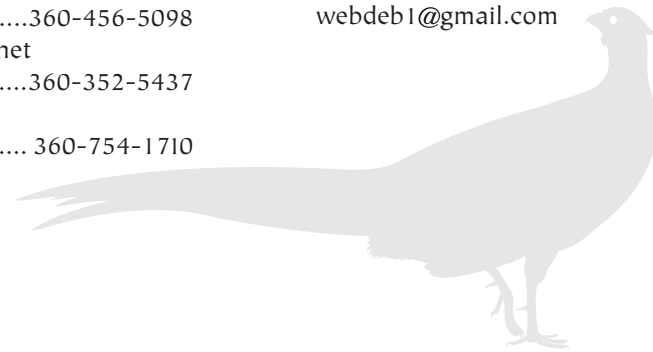
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Black Hills Audubon Society

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Black Hills Audubon Society is a non-profit organization. A member chapter of the National Audubon Society, it represents Audubon members in Lewis, Mason and Thurston Counties.

Our goals are to maintain, restore and protect our ecosystems for future generations, and to promote environmental education and nature-based recreation.

General membership meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday evening of each month, September through June, at the Capitol Museum Coach House, 211 West 21st Street, in Olympia.

Board meetings are at 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. The site varies from month to month, so please call us at the office if you would like to sit in.

Phone and e-mail messages are welcome, but please remember that we are a volunteer-based organization, and it may take us a few days to get back to you.

The Echo is published bi-monthly. Editor: Deb Jaqua. Layout and design by Lee Miller. Graphics by Nature Icons/Ultimate Symbol unless initialed.

Material for *The Echo* should be sent to PO Box 2524, Olympia, WA 98507, or e-mailed to Deb Jaqua at webdeb1@gmail.com.

Deadline for the November/December issue is **October 5, 2008.**

Black Hills Audubon Society (BHAS) Membership form

Type of Membership—check appropriate box

Yearly benefits:

Member of Black Hills Audubon Society Chapter (BHAS) only

Singles or household

- \$20, regular member
- \$35, regular member for 2 years **NEW!**
- \$50, regular member for 3 years, **NEW!**
- \$15, senior or full-time student
- \$25, senior or full-time student for 2 years **NEW!**
- \$35, senior or full-time student for 3 years **NEW!**

Please make check payable to Black Hills Audubon Society.

All dues go to support local Black Hills Audubon chapter efforts. Receive the chapter newsletter, *The Echo*, which describes local chapter conservation action, events, and field trips.

Member of Black Hills Audubon Society Chapter and National Audubon (both)

- \$20, first-time member price
- \$15, Senior or full-time student

Please make check payable to National Audubon Society. **Renewals:** please renew your National Audubon Membership by filling out the forms sent to you by National and sending directly to National Audubon. Thanks!

Most of the dues go to support national efforts. Receive the award-winning national magazine, *Audubon*, and the chapter newsletter, *The Echo*.

Subscription only—receive the chapter newsletter, *The Echo* (does not include membership)

- \$10 chapter newsletter only

Please make check payable to Black Hills Audubon Society.

Receive the chapter newsletter, *The Echo*

- I would like to help Black Hills Audubon's programs of education and conservation. Enclosed is my additional donation of \$_____

Renewals: please renew your National Audubon Membership by filling out the forms sent to you by National and sending directly to National Audubon. Thanks!

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/zip _____

Phone/Email _____

My check for \$_____ is enclosed.

Please fill out this form and mail it with your check to the appropriate address:

Black Hills Audubon Society is a 501(C)3 organization. Contributions are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Membership
Black Hills Audubon Society
PO Box 2524
Olympia WA 98507

Membership
National Audubon Society
225 Varick Street, 7th floor
New York, NY 10014

Thank you for supporting the Black Hills Audubon Society!



We Need your input: Paper vs. Electronic Echo

Dear Readers of the Echo,

We are asking for a minute of your time to give us feedback about the Echo and how you prefer to receive it.

Two main questions (assuming that the same information is available on both the Black Hills Audubon Web site and the paper-copy of *The Echo*):

1. Do you prefer to get your BHAS information from the paper-copy or the BHAS Web site? ...or both?
2. If you prefer to receive the paper-copy of *The Echo*, how would you feel if it were published 3-4 times a year instead of the current every other month schedule (6 times per year)?

We are aware that some folks prefer to receive *The Echo* in its paper format, while some others prefer to get the same information from the BHAS Web site, while still others use both formats. There are advantages and disadvantages to both. In this era, when many non-profit organizations only distribute electronic newsletters in order to reduce costs and duplication of effort and use fewer resources, we are asking you for your opinion and preferences.

Our other question is about the frequency of how often the Echo is published. If you are someone who prefers to receive the paper version of the Echo (and, again, if we assume that the same information is on the BHAS Website), would you be comfortable if the Echo were sent out less frequently, perhaps 3-4 time per year instead of the current 6 times per year? ...or might that reduce *The Echo's* usefulness or enjoyment for you?

How to share your opinion with us:

- ▶ For those with computers and Internet access, please go to the BHAS Web site and share your feedback with us at **www.blackhills-audubon.org/Echofeedback.htm**, or send me an email at **webmaster@blackhills-audubon.org**.
- ▶ If you prefer to telephone your opinion to us, please call me 360-491-3325 and leave a message if I'm not there to answer. Don't forget to leave your name!!

We welcome your comments to help us do a better job of reaching as many people as possible with information about conservation issues, environmental education, membership, and field trips and events.

Please respond by **September 30, 2008**.

A sincere thank you for your assistance! 🦋

Debra Jaqua, Echo Editor

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