



# Calliope Crier

The Yakima Valley Audubon Society is people dedicated to the enjoyment and preservation of the natural world. Through birding, education and conservation activities in our community, we raise awareness and promote the cause of global environmental protection.

Volume 36, Number 3

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

March 2007

## AUDUBON CALENDAR

- Mar 22 Chapter Meeting at 7:00 pm** at the Yakima Area Arboretum.
- Apr 10 Board Meeting** at Larry and Doris Robinson's house (430 Clover Springs Rd., 658-2918) at **7:00 pm**.

### Field Trips

- Mar 24 Saturday Morning Bird Walk** — meet the group at the Poppoff Nature Trail parking lot at the east end of Valley Mall Blvd. at **9:00 am**.
- Mar 31 Vredenburgh Bluebird Trail Clean-out** — meet Richard Repp at the end of the pavement on N. Wenas Rd. at **9:00 am**.
- Apr 4 Wednesday Morning Bird Walk** — meet the group at the Poppoff Nature Trail parking lot at the east end of Valley Mall Blvd at **9:00 am**.
- Apr 21 Zimmerman Ponds and Toppenish NWR** — meet leader Kerry Turley (837-6930) in the parking lot at the west side of the Valley Mall IHOP at **8:00 am**.

### Other Activities

- Mar 23-25** — Sandhill Crane Festival in Othello. For more information see the official festival website at <http://www.othellosandhillcranefestival.org/>
- Apr 13-15 Spring ACOW** — For details see the Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society's website:

## MARCH PROGRAM

### Saving Yellow Bellies, Black Jacks and Pumpkins -- what is The Nature Conservancy up to? with Betsy Bloomfield

For the last four years the Nature Conservancy's South Central program has been working to save the Ponderosa pine forests of the central Cascades. Although we started (and are now only weeks away from completing) purchasing commercial forests that had gone onto the open market, we have pushed far beyond that original dream. Come learn about the nationally recognized forest-wide conservation partnership TNC is nurturing among agencies, tribes and other non-profits to move us to a whole new approach to forest conservation. There will be a quiz: who can identify the meaning of Yellow Bellies, Black Jacks and Pumpkins in the context of biodiversity conservation? Prize will be a personalized field trip to the Tieton Project!

Betsy Bloomfield is the South Central Washington Program Director for The Nature Conservancy, and has been growing the program here since April of 2000. Her program now employs two full time scientists to shape the applied ecology approach that leads to successful conservation at large scales. Her principles for managing a conservation program include a strong policy and practice of outcome-based collaboration, a commitment to long-term conservation solutions through sustainable techniques, and retaining focus on taking well-planned, leveraged conservation action. While serving in her position with The Nature Conservancy, she has raised over 11 million dollars in public acquisition grants, has protected approximately 15,000 acres of habitat, and secured far-ranging cooperative agreements with state and federal agencies across the western United States. She recently recruited a Yakama Nation leader to The Conservancy's State Board of Trustees, formally cementing a growing working relationship with the Tribe. She has an MS from CWU in Natural Resource Management, and a BA in Anthropology from the UW.

## What's inside the Crier . . .

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Visit the Yakima Valley Audubon Society's website at: <http://www.yakimaudubon.org>

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### Citizen Science, Listing, and Chasing Rarities

I've noted that the sport of bird listing sometimes is seen as a dichotomy from the practice of studying birds with conservation purposes in mind. With the completion of this year's Great Backyard Bird Count behind us, I've had a little time to think about the level of participation locally. I've been reflecting on whether or not we are missing an opportunity to add to the pool of bird knowledge for our area, just because we don't have an exciting or rare bird to report.

I know there are people out there who do not seem to view the "news" of common species as important because they seem to be more interested in finding a rarity to tick. But from a conservation perspective, the rarities are usually less important than knowing how the common species are doing. It's the common species that represent the health of the ecosystem, not the strays.

Don't get me wrong about having an interest in rarities, and having a keen interest in common local birds, are not mutually exclusive. I do both and they hold different interests for me, and they provide me with different types of benefits. I end up spending far more time studying local birds than I do chasing rarities, but I will also chase a rare bird at the drop of a hat.

So even if you feel like your list of common birds is boring or of no use, in the name of good data and Citizen Science, continue to post your lists of common birds to places like eBird, Birdyak and Tweepers and by all means join in opportunities like the Great Backyard Bird Count and Christmas Bird Count to help build those important data bases. But most of all get out there and enjoy the birds, rare and common alike.

— Kerry Turley—

### WA SB 5188: Establishing a wildlife rehabilitation program

The Washington State Legislature is considering a bill, WA SB 5188, that will establish a wildlife rehabilitation program to financially support the critical role that licensed rehabilitators perform in caring for sick, injured and orphaned wildlife in our state. **Wildlife rehabilitators work with thousands of wild species in need—mostly suffering from human related injuries—and desperately need more funding to carry out the life-saving work they do.** This bill is an exciting step toward supporting the field of wildlife rehabilitation and wildlife responders in Washington State. Urge your senator to move this one out of committee and onto the Senate floor for a full vote." (From the PAWS Actionline newsletter).

To learn more about the bill see [SB 5188 information](#) on the Washington State Legislature's website.

To find your legislator including email addresses see: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/Default.aspx>

## NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

### Welcome New YVAS Members!

Yakima: Betty Peterson, Lorene Walker,  
Selah: Joy McKinney,  
Sunnyside: Loren Waddell,

### Thank You for renewing your YVAS Membership!

Yakima: June Anderson, Agnes Badgley, Don Bosler,  
Rebecca Buell-Silsbee, Earl Derry, Catherine R.  
Dormaier, Karen Hyatt, Rosemary James, Barbara  
Riley, George & Delila Roulston,  
Grandview: Myra Dorsey,  
Sunnyside: Maynard Huenefeld,  
Thorp: Don & Ruth Knoke  
Wapato: Kathleen Ross,

Please note that the above membership renewals are for Yakima Valley Audubon membership. Renewals to National Audubon are separate and are not listed here.

— Debbie Brown —

## Arborfest Volunteers Needed

Anyone interested in coordinating and/or helping with the YVAS booth at Arborfest is encouraged to contact Kerry Turley (837-6930) for details.

## Vredenburgh Bluebird Trail clean-out party March 31

It's spring and once again, volunteers are needed to clean out nest boxes and pick up trash along the Vredenburgh Bluebird Trail. We will meet at the end of the pavement on North Wenas Road (where it intersects Audubon Road) at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 31. Be sure to wear sturdy shoes, bring gloves and, if you have them, a putty knife or old ice scraper, and a screwdriver. The past three years have demonstrated that clothing for wind and rain protection are almost mandatory. Garbage bags and some cleaning tools will be supplied.

After the clean out we will meet at the Umtanum Falls Trailhead parking lot (between Box 71 & Box 72) for a potluck lunch. **Again this year, we would like to extend a warm invitation to the potluck to members with an interest in bluebirds but who are unable to assist in the actual cleanout.** Please come and visit with friends (both human and feathered) old and new. The potluck itself should start close to noon.

In past years, the potluck has been fantastic with a delicious variety of dishes. However, if you want to notify me of the dish you intend to bring, perhaps duplication could be avoided. Contact Richard Repp with questions at 965-1134 or Rich712@aol.com.

## CONSERVATION

### Introduction of the Endangered Species Recovery Act

The Endangered Species Recovery Act of 2007 was introduced on February 28 by Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID), Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-MT), Finance Committee Ranking Member Charles Grassley (R-IA), Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) and 12 other Senate co-sponsors. The bill would provide \$400 million annually in new tax credits, plus additional deductions and exclusions, for private landowners who take steps to help any of 1200 endangered or threatened species on the properties they own. The bill's prospects for action are good since the Senate Finance Committee has jurisdiction over tax legislation and several members of the committee are co-sponsors. Three of the country's leading environmental groups have already thrown their support behind the bill:

"Most of the rare species in America live on privately-owned lands; very few exist only in our national parks or forests," said Michael Bean, senior attorney for **Environmental Defense**. "Conserving those species often requires active habitat management that is costly for farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners. For too long now, we've been relying exclusively on regulations that had the unintended consequence of pitting landowners and environmentalists against each other. This bipartisan bill would use tax incentives to help us reach our mutual goals of conserving wildlife. This is an innovative approach that will help us make real progress for our endangered species."

"This bill represents the future of wildlife conservation in America," said Larry Schweiger, president and CEO of the **National Wildlife Federation**. "Providing landowners with real economic incentives to save America's imperiled wildlife has been the missing puzzle piece in protecting endangered species."

"Partnering with private landowners on wildlife conservation is absolutely critical," said **Defenders of Wildlife** President Rodger Schlickeisen. "This legislation provides key incentives to enlist more landowners in this effort, which benefits people and endangered species alike."

The Recovery Act would provide tax incentives for property owners that provide either habitat protection or habitat restoration. Habitat protection of a qualified species would be implemented by granting an easement against the property. The easement agreement must include an approved habitat management plan designed to restore or enhance the habitat or to manage the habitat to reduce threats to the species, and must include provisions for monitoring. The plan must also be consistent with any recovery plans approved under the ESA. Habitat restoration tax credit is available to taxpayers who enter into an agreement to conduct restoration projects on their land. The bill also provides safeguards to ensure that the habitat restoration credits do not pay for actions required by law or actions that are already being financed by other conservation programs.

Weirdly, the **American Farm Bureau** also supports the bill, calling it a "win-win" for private landowners, as well as endangered and threatened species. With private lands housing 80 percent of listed species, AFBF President Bob Stallman said it is imperative to include farmers and ranchers in efforts to preserve and enhance habitat for endangered and threatened species. He said farmers and ranchers are known as some of the best stewards of the land, thus the vast majority of landowners want to enjoy listed species on their property, but have been stymied by restrictions on the use of their land by ESA regulations. "Encouraging landowners to proactively improve habitat because they want to, instead of passively acknowledging habitat through land use restrictions, will greatly enhance the recovery of listed species," said Stallman. "The tax credits and deductions provided in the bill offer that encouragement."

### Other Washington Chapters and Conservation.

Black Hills Audubon Society recently won a Court of Appeals decision that denied expansion of a gravel mine owned by Quality Rock on a site adjacent to the Black River Wildlife Refuge about 500 feet east of the Black River in Thurston County. The area's geological conditions cause the groundwater under Quality Rock's site to flow toward and recharge the Black River. Quality Rock applied to expand a gravel mine based on 26 acres to the entire 151-acre site. The hearing examiner recommended approval of the expansion. The Thurston County Commissioners disagreed, saying that Quality Rock had failed to show that the proposed expansion would have no significant adverse impact on the surrounding environment. Quality Rock appealed to the superior court, and won that appeal. Black Hills Audubon in turn appealed and prevailed in the Court of Appeals.

"This is a significant victory," said Susan Danver, Black Hills Audubon Society conservation committee chairwoman, as reported in *The Olympian*. Danver said she was "cautiously optimistic" about the decision because the matter still could be appealed to the state Supreme Court. Expanded mining operations would have had a major impact on plant and animal habitats, water quality, water supply and air quality in the Black River Corridor.

The Black Hills Audubon Society, which represents about 1,100 members in Thurston, Mason and Lewis counties, raised money for the legal challenge through individual donations from members, neighbors, a few nonprofit organizations and others.

A few good things have come out of this. First, it really is possible to convince county commissioners to do the right thing. Perseverance pays off. And sometimes you just have to sue 'em. This case took a lot of not giving up. Truth and justice, the American way, and conservation all win in the end.

— Michael Martin —  
Conservation Chair

## LOCAL FIELD TRIPS

*Please call the leader before the trip to let him/her know you are interested in going. That way, if plans need to be changed, he/she can call you. Also, if no one calls, the leader will know to cancel the field trip and won't be sitting around at the meeting place all alone! Be sure to wear clothing appropriate for the weather and take lunch, snacks and beverages. Also please make a contribution to the driver for gas when you carpool. Contribution should be 25 cents per mile divided by number of people in car, including the driver.*



**Mar 14 Saturday Morning Birdwalk** — Meet the group at the regular place at the parking lot for the Poppoff Trail at the east end of the Valley Mall Blvd. at **9:00 am** for a leisurely tour of a nearby birding area.

**Apr 4 Wednesday Morning Birdwalk** — Meet the group at the regular place at the parking lot for the Poppoff Trail at the east end of the Valley Mall Blvd. at **9:00 am** for a leisurely tour of a nearby birding area.

**Apr 21 Zimmerman Ponds and Toppenish NWR** — Each spring snowmelt in the Cascades east of Mt. Adams rushes down Toppenish Creek filling numerous ponds and flooding valley bottom, creating a bonanza for water and marsh birds. The marshes, fields and riparian patches southwest of Toppenish are at their peak in late April. This trip will be searching for Black-necked Stilts, American Avocets, Cinnamon Teal, Yellow-headed Blackbirds and many other species. Meet leader Kerry Turley at the Valley Mall parking lot on the west side of IHOP at **8:00 am**.

## Please contribute for gas when you ride on field trips

With high gas prices it is important for all participants to contribute for gas. Based on four people in a car, here are the totals per person: 100 miles driven on the trip — \$6.50 each; 150 miles — \$9.50 each, 200 miles — \$12.50 each; 250 miles — \$15.50 each; 300 miles — \$18.50each. Please pay your share; if drivers have to pay most of the gas bill, they may quit driving.



## BIRD SIGHTINGS

Andy Stepniewski, an astute avian aficionado, aptly anointed the second weekend in February as “owly.” On that weekend, Stan and Lori Isley perused the cemetery on West Wapato Road in pursuit of the diminutive Northern Saw-whet Owl previously piqued by Denny Granstrand. After the Isleys easily eyed the original Saw-whet, a quick tree triage tagged two additional Saw-whets as well as a barn-less Barn Owl.

The next day, Scott Downes’ trek started at the eastern end of West Wapato Road with a Barred Owl, looped through the cemetery capturing all three Saw-whets and the Barn Owl, before turning to the southeast to net a pair of Great Horned Owls on Pumphouse Road and a lone Lateral A Long-eared Owl. Eight denizens of darkness documented, Scott’s daylight use of night vision culminated with a Black-crowned Night-Heron flushed along Marion Drain. That evening, Ellen Stepniewski, Andy, Stan and Lori lengthened the long owl list with a Short-eared Owl coursing the fields near Marion Drain and Old Goldendale Roads. Andy, always alert for annotation, earlier eked two calling Sage Sparrows in appropriate habitat.

Almost lost in this wide-eyed weekend of nocturnal species was the coup de grace sighting of the state’s premier diurnal raptor. Andy and Denny were giving westside birding gurus Netta Smith and Dennis Paulson a tour of the Lower Valley when a large raptor perched atop a high point of Toppenish Ridge caught everyone’s attention. Subsequent investigation ended Denny’s twenty-year Yakima County quest for the reigning regal raptor, the Gyrfalcon.



**Black-crowned Night-Heron**  
Photo by Denny Granstrand

On Valentine’s Day, Paul Huffman warmed our hearts with a BirdYak post alerting all that American Robins were once again flocking to a favored night roost in the Suntides area. The evening of Feb. 16, the first day of the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), found Sherry Morris and myself stationed on Gallo-way Road to monitor the pulse of overhead flocks of Robins. The incoming orange tide flooded our tally sheet to the tune of 37,000 American Robins.

The GBBC (see articles on page 6 in this Crier) is one of **(Bird Sightings continued on page 5)**

## Bird Sightings continued from page 4

North America's premier citizen science projects. YVAS President, Kerry Turley, not only performed his civic duty by participating in the GBBC, but also scored the nation's high count for Lewis's Woodpeckers with his tally of twenty at Fort Simcoe. Meanwhile, the soothing suet at the Nile Valley home of Doris and Larry Robinson produced the GBBC's national high for White-headed Woodpeckers and Washington State's largest documentation of Downy Woodpeckers.

John Hebert dedicated a day to the GBBC at the windy Satus Wildlife Recreation Area. Cresting on the waves of bunchgrass were a few surfing Savannah Sparrows and washed ashore were five Killdeer and two Wilson's Snipe. Wind also blew an unexpected visitor onto John's yard list. While tugging on a tree branch almost severed by prior gusts, John dislodged a previously unseen slumbering Barn Owl from the other end of the branch.

The YVAS field trip to the Waterville Plateau not only afforded participants (including Vera Backstrom and Susan Vlahakis) full crops of sought species but also enriched the GBBC with Snowy Owl, Northern Goshawk, Snow Buntings, Ruffed Grouse and Pine Grosbeak. Denny Granstrand ventured to the Washington coast for a GBBC venue that also produced a Snowy Owl at Damon Point and a White-tailed Kite soaring at Bottle Beach.

Less you think all the GBBC fun was garnered by citizens, I must point out scientists Jeff Kozma and Scott Downes also participated. Jeff routed a Ruddy Duck on the Buena Loop Road pond as well employing scientific method to tally American Robins trooping over Terrace Heights. Scott scored a national high count for Chukar (25) with a pass through the Yakima River Canyon and caught a Clark's Grebe (the state's only report) cavorting in the Columbia River near Vantage with four other species of Grebe.

Count or no, YVAS members' yards continue to tickle feathered smiles. A pair of Chukar wandered into the yard of Gus and Mary Pooler atop Yakima Ridge. Near 32<sup>nd</sup> and



*Male White-headed Woodpecker at Larry and Doris Robinson's feeder*



*Eastern Screech-Owl, which is very similar to the Western Screech-Owl heard near Ken Bevis's house.*

**Photo by Mike Roper at Bentsten-Rio Grande State Park in Texas**

Chestnut Avenues, hoots and toots have alerted Ken Bevis of Western Screech-Owl and Great Horned Owl in treetops.

Last month, Denny Granstrand's yard list hit the century mark; ducking in recently to make the list one greater was a Lesser Scaup, the eleventh duck to visit a viewable neighbor's pond. Near 18<sup>th</sup> and Summitview, a walk-on (Ring-necked Pheasant) and a fly-over (Herring Gull) nudged Scott Downes' yard list to 74 species.

Sue Ericksen relates that husband Bill encountered an Osprey perched on the nest platform near Interstate 82 exit 50 on a rather early return date of March 5. Pam and Sherry Morris wandered into the Wenas Valley on Mar 6, noting a male Western Bluebird a mile east of the Green Ranch. Along the Vredenburg Trail, a knot of seven male Western Bluebirds was having a spirited discussion over the ownership of nest box #6.

In Terrace Heights, a Barred Owl continues to barhop, occasionally appearing at the 41<sup>st</sup> Street home of Alice and Mike Roper while roosting on other days along the driveway of Diane Conrad. A pair of American Kestrels appears to be teasing neighborhood residents about the location they will choose for this year's nest.

In an effort to upgrade this column's appeal to the more scientific of our ilk, I must commend Elizabeth Bohn for her addition to her life list of a *Chen caerulescens* on the field trip led by Bill Drenguis to the McNary National Wildlife Refuge. Until Elizabeth enlightened me, I thought she might have picked up an abacus or new fangled Chinese calculator. Et tu, Brute? As Andy and Bill already know, it was actually a Snow Goose.

I hope everyone is enjoying Daylight Savings Time and is getting out to do some birding. If you can't get out, fire up your computer and follow the links on BirdYak to the photographs of George Vlahakis, Denny Granstrand and Mike Roper. The images there are sure to brighten your day.

Please e-mail your bird sightings at Rich712@aol.com or phone me at 965-1134.

— Richard Repp —

## 2007 Great Backyard Bird Count Recap

The tenth annual Great Backyard Bird Count, co-sponsored by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, took place over the four-day President's Day weekend, February 16 – 19.

The focus of this national count is on common birds to help foster conservation efforts to keep them common.

The preliminary national tallies indicate that 2007 was the Count's most productive as records were established for most checklists submitted (80,774), the number of species observed (629), and the total individual birds counted (11,066,350).

Observers within the city of Yakima matched last year's total of 64 checklists submitted while lists from other towns in the YVAS area fell from 60 to a total of 38. A portion of the decline may be attributed to YVAS members who were away from home but still managed to participate at locations both within Washington state or the U.S. at large.

Once again, the leading story in the valley was the evening flocks of American Robins descending on favored roost sites. Even though Yakima birders managed to exceed last year's nation leading total of American Robins by 25,000, the grand total of 79,327 placed second this year. St. Petersburg, Florida, completely rewrote the GBBC record books for the total number of any species with an astounding tally of close to two-million American Robins.

Yakima was also the second leading location in the nation for Black-billed Magpie (233) and placed third in California Quail (305) and Wood Duck (176).

Valley towns took a back seat to no one while racking up national number one ratings for Lewis's Woodpecker (20 in White Swan), White-headed Woodpecker (11 in Naches—a repeat victory for Larry and Doris Robinson), and Chukar (25 in Selah).

When reflecting on the count's focus on common species, one has to admire the effort of YVAS participants. Of the ten common species featured on the chart on this page, YVAS birders placed first or second in Washington state locations. Sawyer exhibited considerable spunk with its rankings in California Quail (#4), White-crowned Sparrow (#3), and House Sparrow (#2). While I can't be sure, Sawyer's eclectic list strongly hints of a yard mural painted by Bill and Sue Ericksen.

Congratulations to all the dedicated people who participated in this year's Great Backyard Bird Count on a job well done. You have peered into your backyard and beyond. Your eyes have withheld no secrets. For those who did not share their vision, I paraphrase a national ad (a Capital One, at that) for a major credit card: What's in your yard? And why were you sitting on your wallet?

— Richard Repp —

## 2007 Great Backyard Bird Count YVAS Area Highlights

| <u>COMMON SPECIES</u>        | <u>Total</u> | <u>WA Rank</u> | <u>National Rank</u> |
|------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------|
| California Quail             |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 305          | #2             | #3                   |
| Sawyer                       | 211          | #4             | #10                  |
| Grandview                    | 200          | #5             | #11                  |
| Moxee                        | 160#6        | #17            |                      |
| Yakima                       | 25           | #2             | #31                  |
| Moxee                        | 19           | #4             | #60                  |
| Naches                       | 131          | #7             | #21                  |
| American Kestrel             |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 22           | #1             | #11                  |
| Moxee                        | 6            | #4             |                      |
| Rock Pigeon                  |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 690          | #1             | #13                  |
| Mourning Dove                |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 346          | #1             | #61                  |
| Black-billed Magpie          |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 233          | #1             | #2                   |
| American Dipper              |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 1            | #3t            | #36t                 |
| Naches                       | 1            | #3t            | #36t                 |
| American Robin               |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 79,327       | #1             | #2                   |
| Gleed                        | 5,478        | #2             | #6                   |
| European Starling            |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 1972         | #1             | #11                  |
| White-crowned Sparrow        |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 340          | #1             | #6                   |
| Sawyer                       | 66           | #3             |                      |
| Moxee                        | 46           | #4             |                      |
| Tieton                       | 30           | #7             |                      |
| Dark-eyed Junco              |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 562          | #2             | #3                   |
| House Finch                  |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 697          | #1             | #17                  |
| House Sparrow                |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 595          | #2             | #30                  |
| <u>YVAS AREA SPECIALTIES</u> |              |                |                      |
| Wood Duck                    |              |                |                      |
| Yakima                       | 176          | #1             | #3                   |
| Chukar                       |              |                |                      |
| Selah                        | 25           | #1             | #1                   |
| Lewis's Woodpecker           |              |                |                      |
| White Swan                   | 20           | #1             | #1                   |
| Tieton                       | 3            | #2             | #9                   |
| White-headed Woodpecker      |              |                |                      |
| Naches/Nile                  | 11           | #1             | #1                   |

Complete data is available at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology at: [www.birdsource.org/gbbc/](http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/)

Use the following form for membership in the Yakima Valley Audubon Society. A separate membership is required for the National Audubon Society. Please use the form sent to you for renewal of your National Audubon Society membership. Current membership will be honored until their expiration date. At the time of the renewal of your National Audubon Society membership you will need to send in a membership to the Yakima Valley Audubon Society in order to continue to receive the *Calliope Crier* and other local membership benefits.

**YVAS MEMBERSHIP**

Join or renew your annual membership to the Yakima Valley Audubon Society to receive ten issues of the *Calliope Crier* and all chapter membership benefits. National Audubon membership and *Audubon Magazine* are not included with your YVAS membership.

Yakima Valley Audubon Membership ..... \$25  
Yakima Valley Audubon Senior (62+)/Student Membership .....\$15

I do not wish to receive any solicitation or communications from NAS (please check if applicable)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: **Yakima Valley Audubon Society**

First time members can use the following form for an introductory membership that includes membership in **both** the Yakima Valley Audubon Society and the National Audubon Society. You will be assigned to your local chapter when you join National Audubon. Please use this form so that Yakima Valley Audubon will receive the full first year dues. After the first year, a separate membership renewal will be required for the Yakima Valley Audubon Society or for you to continue to receive the *Calliope Crier*. After the first year, you will need to use the renewal form sent to you by the National Audubon Society to renew your membership with the National Audubon Society.

**INTRODUCTORY NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP**

New members receive membership in the National Audubon Society and the Yakima Valley Audubon Society for the first year with a combined introductory membership. You will receive ten issues of the *Calliope Crier* and four issues of *Audubon Magazine*.

Introductory Membership .....\$20  
Introductory Senior (62+)/Student Rate .....\$15

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: **National Audubon Society**

Y09-7XCH

Send the form and your check to :  
YVAS Membership  
P.O. Box 2823  
Yakima, WA 98907-2823

If you have any questions, please call 248-1963.

# New raptor photos from three of our photographers



**Ferruginous Hawk (left)**  
**Photo by Denny Granstrand**  
**along Wilson Creek slough**  
**in Grant County.**



**Bald Eagle (above)**  
**Photo by Mike Roper at**  
**Sportsmans State Park.**

**Rough-legged Hawk (right)**  
**Photo by George Vlahakis**  
**taken along Umtanum Road**  
**in the Wenas.**



The Yakima Valley Audubon Society meets on the fourth Thursday of January, February, March, April, May, August, September, and October at 7 pm at the Yakima Area Arboretum, located at 1401 Arboretum Drive, Yakima, WA. Guests are welcome at these meetings. The Annual Meeting of the Society is held the first Thursday of December at 6 pm. The Board of Directors meets each month **except** December at 7 pm at locations announced in the *Calliope Crier*. Members may attend Board meetings; however, please notify the host because of possible space restrictions.

## 2007 YAKIMA VALLEY AUDUBON OFFICERS AND BOARD

|  |   |          |                                  |   |                      |
|--|---|----------|----------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| President                                  | Kerry Turley<br>(kdturley@bentonrea.com)    | 837-6930 | Newsletter                       | Denny Granstrand<br>(dgranstrand@charter.net)           | 453-2500             |
| Vice President                             | Open  |          | Programs                         | Andy Stepniewski<br>(steppie@nwinfo.net)                | 877-6639             |
| Secretary                                  | Vera Backstrom<br>(mww_327@msn.com)         | 653-1174 | <b>Special Committees:</b>       |   |                      |
| Treasurer                                  | Ellen Stepniewski<br>(steppie@nwinfo.net)   | 877-6639 | Bird Rehabilitator               | Connie Hughes<br>(CHbirdlady@msn.com)                   | 457-5661             |
| Directors:                                 | Bill Drenguis<br>(DRENGUIS@aol.com)         | 965-5808 | Bird Reports                     | Richard Repp<br>(Rich712@aol.com)                       | 965-1134             |
|  | John Hebert<br>(jhebert8235@charter.net)    | 965-8235 | Bluebird Trail                   | Bettie Soden<br>(sponsorship records)                   | 453-8185             |
|  | Bob Wahl<br>(rewahl@televar.com)            | 452-9183 | Courtesy                         | vacant  |                      |
|  |   |          | Important Bird Areas             | John Hebert<br>(jhebert@nwinfo.net)                     | 965-8235             |
|  |   |          | Newsletter Mailing               | Joyce Lucas<br>(ajbirds@aol.com)                        | 966-8115             |
| <b>Standing (Voting) Committee Chairs:</b> |   |          | Publicity                        | Bill Drenguis<br>(DRENGUIS@aol.com)                     | 965-5808             |
| Audubon Hoegar Preserve                    | Leslie Wahl<br>(rewahl@televar.com)         | 452-9183 | Social                           | LaVonne Benner<br>Alice Nevue<br>alicenevue@charter.net | 453-1096<br>453-7096 |
| Audubon Refuge Keeper                      | Kerry Turley<br>(kdturley@bentonrea.com)    | 837-6930 | Volunteer Recognition            | vacant  |                      |
| Bluebird Trail                             | Richard Repp<br>(Rich712@aol.com)           | 965-1134 | Webmaster                        | Mac Knight<br>(mac_knight@charter.net)                  | 457-6410             |
| Conservation                               | Michael Martin<br>(Thirdeye@mindspring.com) | 698-4430 | Website                          | www.yakimaaudubon.org                                   |                      |
| Education                                  | open  |          | Toppenish NWR CBC                | Andy Stepniewski<br>(steppie@nwinfo.net)                | 877-6639             |
| Field Trips                                | Larry Robinson<br>(laris430@yahoo.com)      | 658-2918 | Yakima Valley CBC                | Denny Granstrand<br>(dgranstrand@charter.net)           | 453-2500             |
| Fund Raising                               | Dan Kinney<br>(insur3@charter.net)          | 452-3260 | Yakima Valley Audubon Voice Mail |   | 248-1963             |
| Membership                                 | Debie Brown<br>Sturnella@aol.com            | 248-3878 |                                  |   |                      |