

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 39, Number 3

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

March 2010



YVAS CALENDAR



MARCH PROGRAM ANDY STEPNIIEWSKI

- Mar 25 Chapter Meeting** at the Yakima Area Arboretum at **7:00 pm.**
Apr 13 Board Meeting at Debie Brown's house (240 Meadowlark Lane, 248-3878) at **7:00 pm.**

Field Trips

- Mar 24 Wednesday Morning Bird Walk** — Meet the group at the reflection (concert) pond at Sarg Hubbard Park at **9:00 am.**
Mar 27 Ken Taylor's Waterfowl — Meet leader Denny Granstrand (453-2500) at the 40th Ave. Bi-Mart parking lot at **9:00 am.**
Apr 3 Bluebird Nest Box Cleanout — Meet leader Richard Repp at the end of the pavement on North Wenas Road at **9:00 am.**
Apr 10 Saturday Morning Bird Walk — Meet the group at the Yakima Greenway parking lot at the east end of Valley Mall Blvd. at **9:00 am.**

Other Activities

- Mar 26-28 Othello Sandhill Crane Festival** — Visit their website at www.othellosandhillcranefestival.org
Apr 17 Arborfest at the Yakima Area Arboretum — This year's theme is "The Giving Tree".
Apr 30-May 2 Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival — More info at: www.shorebirdfestival.com

Travels to Mongolia with Andy and Ellen Stepniewski

In the heart of the vast Asian continent, Mongolia is still where nomadic horsemen ride across windswept steppes, where shamanism and Tibetan Buddhism flourish, and where according to legend Genghis Khan, leader of the once-great Mongol empire, is buried. This exotic country is full of natural wonders: the vast Gobi Desert, the endless steppes strewn with thousands of lakes, the picturesque Altai Mountains, and the rich taiga forest—all remote, all beautiful, all fascinating, all full of birds.

Andy and Ellen Stepniewski traveled to Mongolia in June 2008, an adventure into a land largely unchanged for centuries. In the remotest areas they camped, in areas with "tourist camps," they stayed in Gers (Yurts to Americans). Everywhere were vast landscapes and hardy nomadic Monguls, eking a livelihood in a very harsh environment. Everywhere, too, were birds and wildlife and grand natural history experiences.

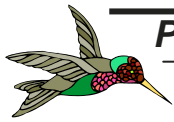
What's inside the Crier . . .

President's Report	2
Membership Update	2
Help Stop House Bill 2132 Today	2
Greater Sage Grouse will not be listed	3
Field Trips	4
Birds & Words, Photos and Kudos	4, 5
Great Backyard Bird Count Write-up and Data	6
Membership Forms	7

Arborfest booth — we need your help

On Saturday, April 17, from 10 am to 3 pm, the Yakima Area Arboretum is sponsoring their annual Arborfest. This is an outdoor education and activity fair for Yakima families, with many local clubs and agencies participating. Once again, Yakima Audubon will have a booth with information and activities. This year's theme is titled "The Giving Tree" and will focus on all of the wonderful things trees give us, such as food, shelter, beauty, clean air, value to our homes, etc. We Auduboners will focus on what trees give to birds. To do this, we plan to have a bunch of pine cones, and piles of suet and seeds. We will help the children to transform these into mini birdfeeders which they will take home to their yards. Please call Ellen Stepniewski (877-6639) to volunteer.

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



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BILL DRENGUIS



A typical phone call: "Are you with the bird group? Well we have a robin with a broken wing can you come and get it?" This brings up several questions. Is it legal to "keep" a migratory bird? How much work is involved in nursing a bird back to health (or raising orphaned chicks)? What type of facility is needed? Do you need a license? What birds are worth the effort? Who decides?

We are very fortunate to have excellent rehab facilities in the Valley. Their emphasis is on the larger species

(think raptors, owls). Is there interest in the Audubon society to encourage or support the rehab of some of the smaller species? Personally, I am wondering about birds like kestrels. (This not a plea to save the starlings but I think you get the idea.)

Spring is here! At least today its nice out. Check your Crier (its on-line) for field trips. There are new locations and new leaders this year. Its a great way to learn from others and enjoy the spectacular area that we live in.



MEMBERSHIP

DEBIE BROWN

Welcome New YVAS Members!

Selah: Connie Buckley , Jerry Turner

Seattle: Rick and Anne Matsen, Tom Mansfield

Yakima: Martin Bardill

Thank You for renewing your YVAS Membership!

Yakima: Martha Fleming, John Hebert, E. Gilliam, Ron Sell & Linda Knutson, Kelly Kindelspire, Margaret Morris, Betty Peterson, Erline Reber, Ken Tolonen, Fern Sule, Ben Wantland

Selah: Angie Begosh, Joy McKinney, Gus & Mary Pooler, Connie Rockwell

Naches: Vera Backstrom

Tieton: Sandra Wasson

Toppenish: Sister 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.

Help Stop House Bill 3132 Today!

This bill would end the Columbia River Gorge Commission, possibly allowing unlimited development in the Gorge

House Bill 3132 would effectively put the Columbia River Gorge Commission out of business. Sponsored by Rep. Kevin Van De Wege, HB 3132 passed the House General Government Appropriations Committee in early March. According to the bill's fiscal note, repealing the compact and defunding the Gorge Commission would save Washington about \$300,000 over the next 18 months. However, the state would incur one-time expenses of about \$290,000 to buy out the commission's office lease and cover annual leave and unemployment costs for all commission staff members. This bill just doesn't make sense.

Please contact your representatives and ask that they help stop this bill. The Speaker of the House, Representative Frank Chopp, can hold the bill in the Rules committee and end the debate today.

You can also contact the Speaker's office directly by calling his Olympia office at: (360) 786-7920 or by email: chopp.frank@leg.wa.gov.

The bill was removed from the active list on about March 10, seemingly ending the threat.

It appears that the bill to dissolve the Columbia Gorge Compact has been resurrected -- just like a zombie. HB 3132 was sent back to the House Rules. As of March 15, it was, as stated on the leg website, "by resolution, reintroduced and retained in present status."

This bill would jeopardize the gorge commission and any regulation of the land uses in the Columbia River Gorge. The Forest Service, I am totally sure, does not want to be involved in regulating local land use. Skamania and Klickitat counties are not known for their rigorous protection of environmentally sensitive areas, let alone scenic values. Clark County, which has a little piece of the gorge, could do better in these areas, also. The passage of this bill would create a legal mess and allow a mess to occur on the ground.

Please contact your state house representatives and urge them to vote against House Bill 3132.

Greater Sage Grouse in peril, but won't be listed; energy groups relieved

The Interior Department says it won't list Greater Sage Grouse as endangered or threatened but will classify the bird among species that are candidates for federal protection.

Despite making clear that Greater Sage Grouse in the American West warrant listing under the Endangered Species Act, the Obama administration declined to actually do so Friday.

The turkey-sized birds with the regal white chest and booming hiccup-like mating call have declined 90 percent in the last century. But with hundreds of thousands of creatures still making their home among the bunch grass and tumble weeds in 11 western states, the administration ruled that listing the birds was less a priority than protecting more imperiled species.

Instead, grouse will be made a "candidate" for listing, which means the bird's status will be evaluated every year.

That puts government agencies on notice that if conditions don't improve, the bird could receive endangered-species protections.

"Scientists suggest that the long-term prognosis for the sage grouse is not good," Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said Friday. But "my hope is that through smart actions we take in partnership with the states, we will never have to list the Greater Sage Grouse."

Once numbering in the tens of millions, Greater Sage Grouse in the West have declined as the sagebrush habitat they require has been cut in half by cities, roads, wildfires, energy development and livestock grazing.

An individual bird may range over 20 miles; the birds are easily disturbed by noise and driven off by tall structures that bring predators like golden eagles closer.

In Washington, the birds are found only in Douglas County, on the Yakima Training Center, and in Lincoln County, where biologists have been reintroducing birds they gather in Oregon and Nevada.

Friday's long-awaited decision allows livestock grazing and oil, gas and wind-energy projects to continue throughout the West, though states and federal agencies will be urged to limit the impact on the bird.

Energy-industry representatives were nonetheless troubled. The Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States (IPAMS), which represents mineral developers in the Rocky Mountains, said it feared that land managers would still be "introducing very restrictive policies that prevent companies from investing and creating high-paying jobs in local communities," according to a written statement from IPAMS government affairs Director Kathleen Sgamma.

The Western Watershed Project, a conservation group that sued the Bush administration after it declined to list the Greater Sage Grouse, called the ruling "a sad delay" and said



Greater Sage Grouse
Photo by Andy Dantzker

it may challenge this decision, too, in federal court.

Defenders of Wildlife pointed out the Obama administration also had proposed spending cuts for endangered-species protection.

The National Wildlife Federation, meanwhile, said the ruling represented progress.

"The federal government has finally acknowledged the decline," said the federation's sagebrush expert, Ben Deeble, in Montana. "It is recognizing the best new science. Now we need to make sure the government is reconciling that science with its energy-development practices."

For years, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), for example, allowed oil and natural-gas drillers in Montana and Wyoming to bypass its own wildlife rules and continue exploration and development on lands important for Greater Sage Grouse.

BLM Director Bob Abbey conceded Friday that in examining his agency's track record, "I do believe there were mixed results."

But, he added, "we have learned and will learn from the actions that have been taken, so that we can do better. And we will do better."

By Craig Welch
Seattle Times environment reporter



FIELD TRIPS

ANGIE BEGOSH

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.



If you are planning on going on a field trip, please call or e-mail the trip leader to tell them you will be there. If no one calls, the leader may decide to sleep in. That may will leave you standing in a parking lot by yourself.

Mar 24 Wednesday Morning Bird Walk — Explore the area from Sarg Hubbard Park to the Yakima Area Arboretum. It is an easy saunter with possibilities of many exciting birds. Meet the group at the reflection (concert) pond at Sarg Hubbard Park at **9:00 am**. We will walk along the new Zirkle Path at the concert pond, past the marsh, past Buchanan Lake, into the Yakima Area Arboretum, and then double back to Sarg Hubbard.

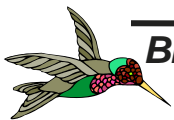
Mar 27 Ken Taylor's Exotic Waterfowl — Ken Taylor has a wonderful collection of exotic ducks and geese and is excited to show them off. Many of the birds he has occasionally show up in Washington as vagrants. You will be able to practice your identification of these rare wanders. Photo opportunities will abound as you will be able to approach quite close to many of these birds. Short list of highlights: Emperor Goose, Barnacle Goose, Red-fronted Goose (possibly the most beautiful goose in the world!), all of the subspecies of Cackling Goose, most of the subspecies of Canada Goose, Mandarin Duck, eiders, plus some you have never heard of. Meet leader Denny Granstrand (453-2500 or dgranstrand@gmail.com) at the 40th Ave. Bi-mart parking lot at **9:00 am**. Afterwards, we may wander into the Wenas to see what we can find, so bring a lunch. ***Please contact Denny if you are planning on attending.***

Apr 3 Bluebird Box Cleanout — Meet leader Richard Repp (965-1134) at the end of the pavement of North Wenas Road where it intersects with Maloy and Audubon Roads at **9:00 am** on Saturday, April 3. Be sure to wear sturdy shoes, bring gloves and, if you have them, a putty knife or old ice scraper. The past few years have demonstrated that clothing for wind and rain protection are almost mandatory. After the cleanout, we will meet at the parking lot for the Umtanum Falls Trail (between Boxes 71 & 72) for a potluck lunch.

Apr 10 Wednesday Morning Bird Walk — Meet the group at the Yakima Greenway parking lot at the east end of Valley Mall Blvd. at **9:00 am**. A two to three hour leisurely exploration of the Poppoff ponds and adjacent riparian area.

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 — \$5.00 each; 150 miles — \$8.00 each, 200 miles — \$10.00 each; 250 miles — \$13.00 each; 300 miles — \$16.00each. Please pay your share; if drivers have to pay most of the gas bill, they may quit driving.



BIRDS & WORDS, PHOTOS & KUDOS

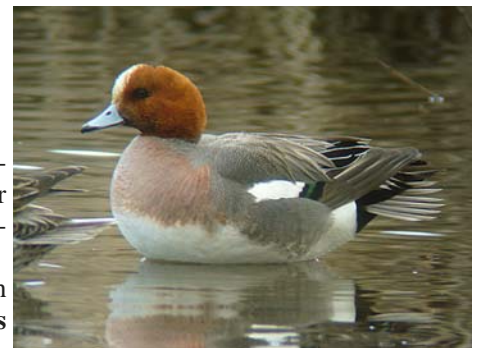
RICHARD REPP

Winter is on the decline. This month brings us March Madness (in college basketball), daylight savings time on our clocks and the official arrival of spring on our calendar. Time to shake of the doldrums of the snowy indoor season and burst outside to greet blooms, birds, and extra evening light.

In early February, thawing ponds in the Toppenish bottomlands brought forth studies of **Trumpeter** and **Tundra Swans** for **Andy and Ellen Stepniewski's** westside visitor **Tom Mansfield**. Also listed were three **Northern Shrikes** and a lone **Eurasian Wigeon**. Topping the Toppenish townscape was the wintering adult **Peregrine Falcon** on its favored water tower.

Mid-February beget the Great Backyard Bird Count (see related article in this Crier.) Among the oddities unearthed during this count was a single **Rusty Blackbird Scott Downes** unhinged from a mixed flock of 2,000 blackbirds haunting Marion Drain. Dunning a farm pond near Liberty Road in the Outlook area, **Kerry Turley**

(Birds & Words, Photos & Kudos continued on page 5)



Eurasian Wigeon
Photo by Denny Granstrand

Birds & Words, Photos and Kudos continued from page 4

shored-up the valley GBBC effort with a lone **Dunlin**. **Jim Christensen's** solitary GBBC neighborhood beat walked upon Yakima town's only reported **Townsend's Solitaire**.

On Feb 21, a full month before spring tips off, **John Hebert's** ears cradled a singing **Sage Sparrow** atop the drowsy but awaking sagebrush. The same locale unearthed a **Rock Wren** sully about fussing more about winter than the arrival of a more enjoyable season.

Feb 28, a month ahead of the more accepted arrival date, **Chris Baum** bagged a **Turkey Vulture** bouncing along rocky drafts above South Naches Road. Distinctive in flight, birding author Pete Dunne's Essential Field Guide Companion notes, "Flies with wings uplifted in a pronounced V. Flight is tipsy and unsteady, as if the bird were walking an invisible rail fence in the sky, trying to maintain its balance. A consummate soaring bird, in most locations, a Turkey Vulture rarely flaps."

March 7 might seem a bit early for Yakima area birds to be contemplating courtship especially in the cooler climate surrounding Tampico. **Wilson's Snipes** are known for their erratic flight but at least one bird was pushing the breeding envelope forcing **Joe Schons** to review odd mating sounds. Pete Dunne's book elaborates, "Displaying birds spiral aloft, then execute a series of dives and climbs. During courtship, flight displays are accompanied by a winnowing sound caused by air passing through the outer tail feathers as the birds execute pendulum-like dives. The winnowing sounds like a series of low whistled notes that seem to climb the scale or accelerate in tempo. Then a pause. Then another series: 'hoo hoo hoo hoo Hoo-HooHoo.' The eerie quality of this call recalls the tremolo call of Eastern Screech-Owl." To me, this winnowing sounds like

insane laughter. And just how does the male Snipe overcome such a lame love song? Is it the Brad Pitt of the shorebird world? Mr. Dunne's book describes the Snipe's appearance thusly: "Looks like a streaked gaunt dowitcher that's been sucking on a lemon. The head seems embarrassingly small for the neck and bill. Fairly short legs are made even shorter by the bird's tendency to crouch." Ladies, does it get any better than that?

Most of the American populace visits cemeteries to pay their respects to the deceased. Birders, when they can pry themselves away from their favorite sewage treatment plant, frequent cemeteries in search of life. Owls seem to be attracted to conifer plantings at such sites. **Denny Granstrand** occasionally haunts the West Hills Cemetery but has yet to uncover more than just pellets in his owl endeavors. But pine not over his last visit; verily, a **Grosbeak** (Pine, naturally) adorned a pine top on March 10.

Another forest bird moving into the lowlands this month was a **Northern Goshawk** that ambushed **John Hebert** along the Pop-poff Trail. Both parties in this encounter failed to heed the old Boy Scout motto of "Be Prepared" as neither was. Fortunately,



Pygmy Nuthatch
Photo by George Vlahakis

the raptor settled into a nearby tree as John's initial surprise melted into rapture over the raptor.

And while the fabric of yard birds looms from small to large, how many of us can weave together **Golden Eagle** and **Pygmy Nuthatch**? Sigh! Konnowac Pass and **Debie Brown** . . . forever quilting to our birding aspirations.

The focus of this column is usually on birds; a bit more specifically, birds found within Yakima County. This month our editor was so enamored with the work of fellow photographer **George Vlahakis** that I expanded my horizons. It seems as George recently slipped across Yakima County's southern border to Ecuador...I think that is a small community near Golden-dale. While there, George tweaked his Nikon camera capturing a stunning **Shinning Sunbeam**...not sure if that is just lens flare or a sparkling new steam iron. Also digitally persevered wandering the gorge was a **Masked Flowerpiercer**. Personally, I didn't know flowers had ears let alone that they would find earrings attractive. But given flowers' propensity to puke pollen, I suppose a surgical mask is warranted. To really appreciate George's art, visit the YVAS website and follow the link to local bird pictures. Stupendous color images abound in galleries created by **George, Denny Granstrand, Mac Knight, and Mike Roper**.

The time frame covered by this column closes as it opened – with the adult **Peregrine Falcon** perched March 12 on a Top-penish water tower eyeing one **Andrew Stepniewski** below. Will it stay to nest? Of the two, one wonders, the other knows.



Sage Sparrow
Photo by George Vlahakis

YVAS slips but scores in the Great Backyard Bird Count

The thirteenth annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), co-sponsored by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, took place over the four-day President's Day weekend, Feb 12 – 15.

The focus of this national count is on common birds with the intent of fostering conservation efforts to keep them common.

The preliminary national tallies indicate that 2010 set a record for the number of individual checklists submitted, 96,842. A total of 11,185,368 birds of 600 species were counted across North America.

Once again the YVAS area had an impact on this year's count! First and foremost, the city of Yakima cracked the top ten for total individual birds tallied, weighing in with 59,541 birds for the eighth highest total in the nation.

A chart on this page of the Crier features eleven species that enjoy a wide distribution in North America. YVAS locations ranked no lower than third in Washington State for these common species.

Shown at the bottom of the chart are five additional species that have a more regional winter range. YVAS locations garnered national top ten rankings for all five species!

American Robins were far and away the most common of the common with 50,136 individuals squeezed onto Yakima checklists alone. The bulk of these were tallied at the Suntides area night roost. A special thanks goes to **Jeff Kozma, Scott Downes, Kelly Kindelspire and Denny Granstrand** for tabulating Robins flying into the roost area on the first three days of the GBBC.

This year, the number of Robins flocking to the Suntides night roost dropped almost 80% from last year's flights. Possibly, this year's mild February weather may have resulted in fewer Robins remaining in a holding pattern in the Yakima Valley feasting on unpicked fruits while awaiting more favorable conditions to the north. Will the Robin numbers snap back up if temperatures drop in future counts? Or will national data reveal earlier migration of many species should warmer winters prove to be a trend?

YVAS area locations combined for a total of 128 checklist submissions this year, down from last year's 165. Checklists generated within the city of Yakima dropped by 43 while the communities surrounding Yakima managed to collaborate for 64 checklists, six above last year's effort.

Though it is impossible for me to know exactly who submitted checklists, I do know of five individuals who impacted our local count. **Scott Downes** spent most of one day in the Toppenish area, **Horst Loechelt** completed nine lists in Cowiche, and **Jim Christensen's** ten Yakima lists spared the fair city from a complete face plant. **Kerry Turley** and **Denny Granstrand** visited Fort Simcoe giving White Swan a national lock on Lewis's Woodpecker. Check the charts on this page to see where **your** birds impacted the national count.

Our congratulations go to all who participated in this year's GBBC. For those who missed this year's GBBC, mark your calendar now. This annual event occurs on Presidents Day weekend every year.

— Richard Repp —

2010 GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT YVAS AREA HIGHLIGHTS

Data as of March 2, 2010 08:36 EST

	Total	WA Rank	National Rank
<u>COMMON SPECIES:</u>			
American Robin			
Yakima	50,136	#1	#2
Cowiche	10,039	#2	#4
Dark-eyed Junco			
Yakima	896	#2	#10
European Starling			
Toppenish	2,067	#2	#21
Yakima	1,923	#4	#27
Cowiche	1,539	#5	#31
Red-tailed Hawk			
Yakima	72	#2	#4
American Kestrel			
Yakima	53	#1	#3
Toppenish	21	#2	#11
Moxee	12	#3	#33
Northern Flicker			
Yakima	108	#3	#11
White-crowned Sparrow			
Yakima	141	#2	#31
Toppenish	131	#3	#36
House Finch			
Yakima	652	#2	#12
House Sparrow			
Yakima	1,238	#1	#7
Brewer's Blackbird			
Toppenish	4,913	#1	#1
Red-winged Blackbird			
Toppenish	3,999	#1	#8
<u>YVAS AREA SPECIALTIES:</u>			
Lewis's Woodpecker			
White Swan	167	#1	#1
California Quail			
Yakima	421	#1	#4
Cowiche	269	#4	#9
Naches	255	#5	#10
Black-billed Magpie			
Yakima	114	#1	#6
Toppenish	55	#2	#29
Naches	46	#3	#39
Wood Duck			
Yakima	160	#2	#2
Prairie Falcon			
Yakima	3	#1	#2
Moxee	2	#2	#8

Have a favorite bird or location?
Complete data is available at:
The Cornell Lab of Ornithology
at: 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 _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

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**

COZY090Z

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.

The Othello Sandhill Crane Festival offers a great opportunity to plenty of cranes, along with many other species of birds.



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.

2010 YAKIMA VALLEY AUDUBON OFFICERS AND BOARD

President	Bill Drenguis (DRENGUIS@aol.com)	965-5808	Membership	Debie Brown Sturnella@aol.com	248-3878
Vice President	Open		Newsletter Editor	Denny Granstrand (dgranstrand@gmail.com)	453-2500
Past-president	Kerry Turley (kdturley@embarqmail.com)	837-6930	Programs	Andy Stepniewski (steppie@nwinfo.net)	877-6639
Secretary	Vera Backstrom (vback47@gmail.com)	731-2103	Special Committees:		
Treasurer	Ellen Stepniewski (steppie@nwinfo.net)	877-6639	Bird Rehabilitator	Connie Hughes (CHbirdlady@msn.com)	457-5661
Directors:	Angie Begosh (mollybot5@hotmail.com)	834-1528	Bird Reports	Richard Repp (Rich712@aol.com)	965-1134
	Jan Gano (gano12@earthlink.net)	966-4539	Bluebird Trail	Richard Repp (sponsorship records)	965-1134
	Bob Wahl (reljwahl@msn.com)	452-9183	Courtesy	Open	
Standing (Voting) Committee Chairs:			Important Bird Areas	John Hebert hejohn1126@msn.com	965-8235
Audubon Hoegar Preserve	Leslie Wahl (reljwahl@msn.com)	452-9183	Newsletter Mailing	Joyce Lucas (ajbirds@aol.com)	966-8115
Audubon Refuge Keeper	Kerry Turley (kdturley@embarqmail.com)	837-6930	Publicity	Angie Begosh (mollybot5@hotmail.com)	834-1528
Bluebird Trail	Richard Repp (Rich712@aol.com)	965-1134	Social	Open	
Conservation	Open		Volunteer Recognition	vacant	
Education	Elizabeth Bohn (elizabethannbohn@yahoo.com)	901-1886	Webmaster	John Hebert (hejohn1126@msn.com)	965-8235
Field Trips	Angie Begosh (mollybot5@hotmail.com)	834-1528	Website	www.yakimaaudubon.org	
Fund Raising	Dan Kinney (insur3@charter.net)	452-3260	Toppenish NWR CBC	Andy Stepniewski (steppie@nwinfo.net)	877-6639
			Yakima Valley CBC	Denny Granstrand (dgranstrand@gmail.com)	453-2500
			Yakima Valley Audubon Voice Mail		248-1963