

CHATTER

Discovery Coast Audubon Newsletter

March 2008

FROM THE EDITOR: After a long winter of hurricanes and indolence, we are back in action. There are lots of exciting things in our future. Join us. Volunteer. We need you.

FROM THE PRESIDENT: This Spring is a very busy time for this Audubon Chapter. We have the opportunity to expand our conservation and education possibilities with help from a new source of funds called Together Green "act today, shape tomorrow". We will be applying for dollars to further our efforts in our partnership for education that is in the creative stage. We are looking forward to making a difference in Pacific County. As we look into the future for conserving the habitat of this unique birding area, we acknowledge that it will take the efforts of all to keep it viable for future generations. Volunteer now. Plans are being made now for Birding 101 classes. Please attend the monthly meeting April 14 at 7 p.m., PUD on Sandridge, to let us know how you would like to have these classes structured.

Migratory Bird Day is Saturday May 10 this year. Do you know which birds will be here at that time? How about a field trip to check those birds out? Contact us at 642-1310 or bird@discoverycoastaudubon.com.

If you have nay concerns about the loss of trees in Pacific County, your comments are welcome.

The article we submit to the Chinook Observer needs your birding stories, concerns and comments. Please forward your thoughts to bird@discoverycoastaudubon.com

TOGETHER GREEN: Toyota has announced they will be donating \$20,000,000 to the National Audubon Society over the next five years. Individual chapters will be able to apply for grants from this fund which includes three program components, all with an eye toward conservation. There will be innovation grants, conservation fellowships and volunteer days. Chapters will be able to apply for a grant in any or all categories. DCAS will be applying for these grants with several exciting proposals in mind. Stay tuned for more on this.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: DCAS Education Chair, Mary Atherton, is attending a series of workshops at Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center. Washington State Parks Environmental Education Specialist Julie Tennis has convened this series of brainstorming sessions. A diverse group from the Peninsula community mulled the theme of "providing student awareness, understanding and appreciation for the environment in which they live." The No Child Left Inside grants program, administered by Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, will provide much of the start-up funding for this ambitious undertaking. A yurt, to be used as a classroom, will be placed at Pacific Pines State Park this summer. The goal is to have a program in place for every grade level by 2013. Ultimately, residential programs for students and an environmental education center on the Peninsula are planned. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to cooperate with the schools

and various organizations in our community to excite the younger generations about ensuring an environmentally sound future.

THANK YOU: Saturday, March 1, Patricia Cruse, Mike and Bjarno Guglielmetti, Keith Mahoy and Rosemary Hallin helped assemble and deliver orders of trees and bushes from Pacific County Department of Conservation. It was a dirty job, but lots of fun. I hear that pizza will be involved next year, so answer the call when asked to help.

GBBC: The Great Backyard Bird Count was held February 15-18 this year. Thank you to all who participated. Several areas in Washington made the Top Ten lists. Check out the website for more information, and do consider participating in next year's count.

<http://qbbc.birdsource.org/qbbcApps/results>

INVASIVE SPECIES: Audubon Washington is spearheading the coalition with the statewide Invasive Species Council. Invasive species create a large impact ecologically and economically, and we should all be aware of this issue.

More information on invasive species: www.invasivespeciescoalition.org

More information on the Council: www.rco.wa.gov/invasive_species/default.htm

FALL ACOW: DCAS will be hosting the Fall Audubon Council of Washington meetings October 10-12 this year. The state Audubon people assist in the planning and scheduling of speakers. These meetings are always informative and fun. If you would like to volunteer in any capacity, call Patricia 642-1310.

BIRDS: Did you know that 49 bird species in the state of Washington are on the Imperiled List? www.bellinghamherald.com/102/story/247789.html

P.S.: As I finish writing this I am having a difficult time taking my eyes off the window. SNOW! March 26, 2008. Hmm.

Discovery Coast Audubon Society

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