



# 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 43, Number 01

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

January 2014



## JANUARY PROGRAM

BILL DRENGUIS

### TNWR — OUR ROLE?

What's the deal with that refuge outside of Toppenish? January's program will feature Sue McDonald and Rich Albers of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. We hope to go from the broad topics such as "What is a refuge and what is their purpose?" to specific questions about our very own Toppenish National Wildlife Refuge.

Yakima Valley Audubon has always had a very loose affiliation with the refuge. We are in the very early stages of asking (and hopefully answering) such ques-

tions as: Can we assist the refuge as a "Friends" organization? Are we interested in helping to keep the visitor center open on a more regular basis? Are we able to help with regular bird surveys?

We hope that this meeting will be more than just a passive talk! Here is a chance to hear about the refuge system and decide how we want to be a part of it. This will be a great chance to not only learn about the refuge at Toppenish, but to also learn about opportunities for us to get involved.

**Mark your calendar for Thursday, January 23, at 7:00 pm to see this presentation at the Yakima Area Arboretum**



## THIS MONTH'S YVAS CALENDAR

- Jan 23 Audubon Chapter Meeting at the Yakima Area Arboretum at 7:00 pm.
- Feb Board Meeting TBA



## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

ANDY STEPNIIEWSKI

First, a big Thank You to Denny Granstrand, outgoing YVAS President! During his two-year tenure, YVAS continued to grow as a group of enthusiastic and friendly folk all sharing a passion for nature and, in particular, birds. Denny's steady and focused leadership over the past two years will ensure a smooth transition for me in assuming the helm of YVAS.

Denny sent out two newsworthy items as 2013 drew to a close:

1) YVAS received an Audubon collaborative chapter grant for \$500 to re-print the well-received "Birds of the Yakima Arboretum" pamphlet. Maintaining a supply of both this pamphlet and the Yakima Area Wildlife pamphlet helps our chapter further its education mission by promoting awareness of our natural world.

2) A number of changes have occurred over the past several months on the YVAS board. April Adamson has agreed to become YVAS's newest board member by assuming a Director position. April and her husband Bob are enthusiastic and active "newbies" to birding, as April has said. They have been attending meetings and field trips for a couple of years and April is on way.



the Education Committee. Bill Drenguis has volunteered to be Program Chair, replacing Andy Stepniiewski. Luke Safford has now assumed the Field Trip Committee, formerly held by Bill Drenguis. Ellen Stepniiewski assumed the long vacant Education Chair and Karen Zook has filled the Treasurer position vacated by Ellen.

In 2014 and beyond:

1) YVAS's Education Committee is especially excited with a "Birding Basics" class to be offered this spring. It will be a four part course - see page 4 for details.

The Education Committee is also planning to participate in Arborfest at the Yakima Area Arboretum, a sensational April event for schoolchildren now attracting between 2 and 3000 grade school kids. Later on, the Education Committee will participate in Kiddin Around, partnering with the Yakima Green-

*President's Column (continued on page 2)*

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

*President's Column (continued on page 2)*

2) The Field Trip Committee met January 11 to organize 2014 outings to many of our favorite birding sites in south-central Washington and perhaps further afield. Make plans to attend these fun and educational trips and see how many species you can see on YVAS trip this year!

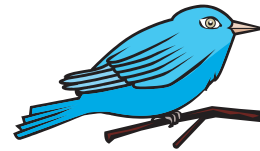
3) Conservation. As you will note on the Calliope Crier masthead, conservation is a central part of the mission statement of YVAS. Though the active chapter members now focus pretty heavily on birding, we need to remind ourselves preservation of habitat is paramount to maintaining the remarkable biodiversity in the Yakima region. This aspect of YVAS deserves a renewed focus. Issues we may focus on include: Bobolink monitoring and protection; riparian habitat

protection in the Wenas Valley region, an area of exceptional biodiversity and interest; habitat protection at Fort Simcoe and Sportsman State Park; and the wild horse issue on the Yakima Nation and their effects on shrub-steppe ecosystem on the reservation. I will also propose YVAS continue its support of Washington Audubon. Typically, the chapter makes a substantial donation to support WA Audubon lobbying and conservation efforts.

4) I will also urge YVAS continued financial support of the Yakima Environmental Learning Foundation (YELF). In 2014, YELF already has an impressive five environmental films scheduled!

**MEMBERSHIP****DEBIE BROWN****Welcome New YVAS Members!****Yakima:** Kathy & Ed Medford**Naches:** William Strange, Thomas Thrush**Thank you for renewing your YVAS Membership!**

**Yakima:** Elizabeth & Greg Bohn, Jean Chott, Jim Christensen, Georgia Duncan, Jim Hertel, Joyce Lucas, Kay Marsh, Ken Meier, Janet Shaw, Leni Skarin, Fern Sule & Lance Chamberlin, Mrs. George Thayer, Jack & Bev Vonfeld, Rae Woods

**Wapato:** Andy & Ellen Stepniewski**Selah:** Helen & Norb John**Toppenish:** James Hansen**Seattle:** Mary Williamson, Martha Taylor**Vredenburgh Nest Box Sponsors**

Is your bluebird box due for renewal? Not sure? Check pages 8-9 of the October 2013 Crier and look at the Paid Thru column for your box. Make your check payable to YVAS and mail it to P O BOX 2823, Yakima, WA 98907. Questions? Contact Richard Repp at rich712@aol.com or 509-965-1134.

**Annual Dinner Kudus**

Several folks went beyond the call of duty at the YVAS Annual Christmas dinner December 5. We extend a special thanks to these folks, who did lots of advance preparation and helped in clean-up. These generous members are:

Elizabeth Bohn	Greg Bohn	Bill Drenguis
Jan Drenguis	Dan Kinney	Denny Granstrand
Richard Repp	Ellen Stepniewski	Joe Zook
Karen Zook		

— Ellen Stepniewski —

**Memorial Donation**

Yakima Valley Audubon Society received a generous donation from Mary Vance Strate in memory of Hester Godwin. Hester passed away on November 29, 2013 at the age of 92. Hester felt a deep connection with nature. She loved being in the hills, following logging roads to remote places and venturing out into nature. In her memory, this donation will be used for programs to educate others about the beauty and importance of birds, nature and the environment.

— Karen Zook —

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.



## FIELD TRIPS

### LUKE SAFFORD

**Jan 23, 30, Feb 6, 13 - Thursday Morning Bird Walk** —Weather permitting! Meet the group at the new Poppoff Trail/Jewett Pathway parking lot at the east end of Valley Mall Blvd., at the north side of the easternmost roundabout at **8:30 am**.

**Feb 1 - White Swan Raptor Tour** — Toppenish to Fort Simcoe – We will tour west from US-97 south of Toppenish along Marion Drain Road. Winter sees a large number of raptors in the Lower Yakima Valley. This is a great tour to sample these birds. Expect Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, and Red-tailed Hawks, American Kestrel, and Prairie Falcon. Northern Goshawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Merlin and Golden Eagle are possible. Owls, if encountered, won't be ignored! Fort Simcoe should add passerines. On our return we'll take a look at the water towers in Toppenish for Peregrine Falcon. Back by 4 pm. Bring lunch and dress for the weather. Contact leader Andy Stepniewski (877-6639) to say you are going and to get the location and time to meet the group.

**Feb 14-17 — Great Backyard Bird Count — On Your Own. For more details, go to: [www.birdsource.org/gbbc](http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc)**

**Feb 15-17—Ridgefield, Julia Butler Hanson NWRs, Vancouver Lowlands**—The numbers and diversity of wintering birds at the Ridgefield and Julia Hanson Butler NWRs and in the Woodland Bottoms can be staggering. The driving loop a round Ridgefield gives wonderfully close views of the birds and fantastic photographic opportunities. This entire area is well-birded and seems to produce an abundance of rarities. Contact Denny Granstrand ([dgranstrand@gmail.com](mailto:dgranstrand@gmail.com) or 453-2500) for more details and motel information.



## BIRD SIGHTINGS

### DENNY GRANSTRAND

The Horse Heaven Hills area south between Mabton and Bickleton has long been known to be good for wintering species that are much harder to find in other areas of Yakima County. **Scott Downes** explored the area on Dec. 14 and found a **Gyrfalcon**, one of his target species, perched on the ridge north of Naught Road. Gyrfalcons are the rarest raptor to visit Yakima County. Scott also found numerous **Rough-legged Hawks** and three **Gray Partridges**.

**Andy and Ellen Stepniewski, Eric Heisey and Bob Schmidt** drove all around the Horse Heaven Hills on Dec. 15 searching for the Gyr and noted a total lack of the wintering species, though they did find six **Rough-legged Hawks**. One good sized flock of **Horned Larks**, which occasionally have Snow Buntings and Lapland Longspurs, excited them momentarily but, alas, the flock was all larks. They did find a **Mountain Bluebird** on County Line Road near some Western Junipers, whose berries were probably getting it through the winter.

The Thursday Morning Bird Walk group has worked up an impressive list of birds on their walks around the Jewett and Poppoff Trails of the Yakima Greenway. On Dec. 19 they were delighted when an immature **Northern Goshawk** sped past at the entrance to the trail. It was flying fairly low and everyone has great looks at it. There seem to be fewer



**Gyrfalcon**  
Photo by Eric Heisey

mountain species in the valley this winter, including **goshawks**, probably due to the lack of snow in the lower forests.

The most extensively-birded section of the Yakima River must be the stretch below **Eric Heisey's** house near Granger. Eric has shown that this is a very birdy section of the county and he has a long list of sightings there. On Dec. 30, he was excited to find one **Greater Yellowlegs** and seven **Least Sandpipers**, both of which he found wintering last year in the same area. He also saw a **Northern Goshawk**, which may have been his first for that area.

If you want to find gulls in the winter in Yakima County, you need to visit Priest Rapids. Unless you get lucky at Buchanan Lake, like **Karen and Joe Zook** did on Dec. 30. As they were scanning the flocks of ducks and geese, they spotted a gull on one of the islands in the lake. It took off and flew south before they could ID it, but quick-shooting Karen got an identifiable photo of it, a **Ring-billed Gull**.

**Loretta Olson** ventured out to the Jewett Trail on January 5 and found and photographed a **Spotted Sandpiper** in the Yakima River. Spotted Sandpipers are very rare in the valley in the winter. They have been seen on the Yakima Valley Christmas Bird Count three times but were missed on the count on January 4. This one goes down as a "count week" bird.





**EDUCATION**  
**ELLEN STEPNIIEWSKI**

## Birding Basics - A class sponsored by the YVAS and Yakima Area Arboretum

Yakima Audubon Society experts will conduct Birding Basics, a class that will teach you how to watch and appreciate birds and their world, both at feeders in your yard or out and about in the rich mosaic of natural habitats around Yakima. Learn about the “tools of the trade,” too, including binoculars, spotting scopes, field guides, and birding apps. In four Wednesday evening lectures at the Arboretum (7 – 8:30 pm), followed by Saturday fieldtrips to local spots rich in birds, this class will address four main themes:

**February 26 - “Waterbirds”** This lecture will focus on the wide variety of waterfowl, both geese and ducks, that form the bulk of the first wave of northbound migrating birds. More than 20 species of ducks and geese stream north as soon as the ice and snow melts locally. The class will focus on waterfowl and how to differentiate these species plus tidbits on their biology and habitat requirements. We’ll introduce you to the various other waterbirds such as loons, grebes, cormorants, and pelicans. Luke Safford will present this lecture. Luke is an active birder and waterfowl hunter. His perspective will be most interesting on this much-loved group of birds. The field trip to Toppenish NWR will be on March 1, where the early waterfowl migration should be in full swing.

**March 12 - “Raptors”** Birds of prey always command attention due to their size, dramatic predatory habits, and mastery of the skies. We’ll cover the basic groups of daytime or diurnal raptors such as eagles, soaring hawks, falcons, and “bird hawks.” The Yakima region is also rich in owls, those mysterious nighttime predators. Denny Grandstrand, longtime Yakima Audubon member, has studied and photographed raptors for over 35 years and will share amazing images of these incredible birds. The fieldtrip on March

15 will be to the Toppenish NWR and nearby fields, an area rich in raptors.

**April 16 - “The Shrub-steppe”** The hills surrounding Yakima appear brown and lifeless for much of the year. In this lecture, you’ll see this landscape of gray shrubs and intermixed bunchgrasses, the “shrub-steppe,” comes alive each spring with colorful wildflowers and a variety of colorful and not-so-colorful birds. Andy Stepniowski has studied the shrub-steppe for more than 35 years and guarantees you will come away from this class with a new appreciation for the “barren” hills around Yakima. The fieldtrip on April 19 will take you to local areas of shrub-steppe habitat.

**May 28 - “Woodpeckers and Mountain Birds”** The forests around Yakima contain more species of woodpeckers than almost any other region in North America. This is due to the mosaic of forest types-from “Wetside-to-Dryside” in close proximity. This class will focus on this interesting and colorful group by Jeff Kozma, a professional biologist and an authority on this group of birds. A wide variety of other birds inhabit our Cascade east slopes, some residents year-round, others pouring north from their winter quarters in the tropics. We’ll introduce you to the wonders of Neotropical migrants, too. The fieldtrip on May 31 will be by “leader’s choice” into a forested area in the nearby Cascades.

Attendance will be limited. To register online, use the Arboretum website [www.ahtrees.org](http://www.ahtrees.org), or by phone contact the Yakima Area Arboretum (248-7337). The cost for four lectures and four fieldtrips is \$65 for Arboretum or Yakima Audubon members, and \$85 for non-members (this includes local Audubon membership for one year). Fieldtrips will be car-pooling affairs, with riders sharing the cost of gas.

---

## Robert Redford Narrates Film on Colorado River

The Yakima Environmental Learning Foundation (YELF) will bring *Watershed: Exploring a New Water Ethic for the New West* to Yakima for a screening.

As the most dammed, dibbed, and diverted river in the world struggles to support thirty million people and the peace-keeping agreement known as the Colorado River Pact reaches its limits, this movie introduces hope. Can harmony be found amongst the competing interests of cities, agriculture, industry, recreation, wildlife, and indigenous communities with rights to the water? Sweeping through

seven U.S. and two Mexican states, the Colorado River is a lifeline to expanding populations and booming urban centers that demand water for drinking, sanitation and energy generation. And with 70% of the rivers' water supporting agriculture, the river already runs dry before it reaches its natural end at the Gulf of California.

Mark your calendar for 7 pm Thursday, Feb 20 at Yakima Valley Community College’s Parker Room in the Deccio Building.

## Toppenish Christmas Bird Count 2013 by Luke Safford

On December 14<sup>th</sup> 30 birders left the Branding Iron Restaurant with the goal of counting every single bird in the 15 mile diameter circle known as the Toppenish Christmas Bird Count area. Hopes were high for beginning and experienced birders alike; there are few other birding experiences that combine scientific research, camaraderie, and unabashed 'ticking' together quite like the Christmas Bird Counts.

We ended up with a total of 16,525 individual birds counted, which is lower than our average (20,435) for this yearly count. Our total of 84 species is slightly higher than our average total, and is fairly consistent with the past few years. We had several species of which we recorded all-time high counts: Bufflehead (25), Cooper's Hawk (20), Red-tailed Hawk (214), Merlin (6), Rock Pigeon (1836), Eurasian Collared Dove (317), Great Horned Owl (14), and Bewick's Wren (56). The high count of Bufflehead was especially significant because of the lack of open water. Conversely, there



**Bufflehead by Denny Granstrand**

were very low counts of other waterfowl, including American Wigeon (all-time low of 11), Mallard (663—lowest since 1990), and only 2 Northern Pintail, the lowest number since 1993. Ring-necked Pheasants were also sparsely seen with only 5 noted. Two other notable species seen were a single Greater Scaup, the first since 2002, and a Say's Phoebe, last seen in 2004.

I want to give a big thank you to Andy and Ellen Stepniewski for opening up their house for the post-count recap and dinner. Andy began this CBC in 1983 and we thank him for his continued involvement and expertise. 2014 will mark the 32<sup>nd</sup> year of counting within the Toppenish circle and we hope to see you participating with us this December. I encourage you to go to <http://birds.audubon.org/christmas-bird-count> to learn more about the value of conducting Christmas Bird Counts.

## 2013 Yakima Christmas Bird Count Tallied 87 Species by Denny Granstrand

Thirty intrepid birders scoured the Yakima Valley Christmas Bird Count circle on Jan. 4, 2014, under more comfortable than usual weather conditions. We found 87 species of birds plus two forms, with three count week birds found in the three days after the count.

The day actually started out at 13°, which made owling less than comfortable but when the sun came up things warmed up quickly, both the weather and the birding.

One new species popped onto the all-time list—Jeff Kozma and Kelly Kindelspire found a Barn Swallow at Sarg Hubbard Park. This was the first Barn Swallow ever seen in the 44 years of the Yakima Valley CBC. What is a swallow doing in Yakima in early January? Probably working hard to find enough insects to stay alive.

Bill Drenguis dropped Kerry Turley off to walk up a gully on the Yakima Training Center and, near the spot he was going to pick Kerry up, found a male Cassin's Finch. It is only the 5th time a Cassin's Finch has been seen on the count.

My group spotted two Trumpeter Swans on a pond at the Columbia Asphalt plant. They were the only swans found that day and only the 2nd time they have been found on this count.



**Harris's Sparrow**  
Photo by Eric Heisey

Andy Stepniewski and his group found a Harris's Sparrow on a road off Birchfield Road. This is a sparrow that is a rare winter visitor to the valley and hasn't been seen on the count in seven years.

Ellen Stepniewski does Windy Point Ranch and this year was joined by Karen and Joe Zook and Ken Tolonen. They found one individual of two species not seen by anyone else—Orange-crowned Warbler and Western Meadowlark.

We frequently look at the spreadsheet, which can be seen on the next page, and concentrate on the species with the most individuals seen. I find it more interesting to see how many species there were that we only found one bird. This year there were 11 such species.

Also interesting is how many species were seen by every group—only 13. This shows how important it is to scour all of the varied habitats in the count circle to compile a list of 86 species.

With much of the water being frozen, we still found 17 species of waterfowl, which is about the norm.

So we end the Christmas Bird Count season having enjoyed both of our counts. I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Yakima Count and hope everyone will be back to help out again next year.

## The Data — Christmas Bird Counts Species by Species

	<u>Yakima</u>	<u>Topp</u>		<u>Yakima</u>	<u>Topp</u>
CAACKLING GOOSE	16	12	<b>STELLER'S JAY</b>	<b>1</b>	
CANADA GOOSE	2226	1234	WESTERN SCRUB-JAY	<b>22H</b>	
TRUMPETER SWAN	<b>2H</b>		BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE	389	217
TUNDRA SWAN		12	AMERICAN CROW	248	137
WOOD DUCK	69	6	COMMON RAVEN	45	59
GADWALL	19	13	HORNED LARK	11	135
AMERICAN WIGEON	157	<b>11L</b>	BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE	283	54
MALLARD	1062	<b>663L</b>	RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH	10	
NORTHERN SHOVELER	19	36	ROCK WREN	1	8
NORTHERN PINTAIL	1	2	CANYON WREN		7
GREEN-WINGED TEAL	45	53	BEWICK'S WREN	<b>105H</b>	<b>56H</b>
RING-NECKED DUCK	130	16	PACIFIC WREN	4	3
<b>GREATER SCAUP</b>		<b>1</b>	MARSH WREN	6	15
LESSER SCAUP	8	6	GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET	11	1
COMMON GOLDENEYE	<b>384H</b>	16	RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET	27	37
BARROW'S GOLDENEYE	CW		TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE	2	
BUFFLEHEAD	<b>101H</b>	25	HERMIT THRUSH	5	2
HOODED MERGANSER	98		AMERICAN ROBIN	980	397
COMMON MERGANSER	158	28	VARIED THRUSH	<b>115H</b>	7
CALIFORNIA QUAIL	645	268	EUROPEAN STARLING	3771	2557
RING-NECKED PHEASANT	9	<b>5L</b>	CEDAR WAXWING	88	5
PIED-BILLED GREBE	11	48	<b>ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER</b>	<b>1</b>	
DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT		3	YEL.-RU. (MYRTLE) WARBLER	14	
GREAT BLUE HERON	39	49	YEL.-RU. (AUDUBON'S) WARBLER	107	43
<b>GREAT EGRET</b>	<b>1</b>		SPOTTED TOWHEE	38	17
<b>BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>AMERICAN TREE SPARROW</b>		<b>1</b>
BALD EAGLE	14	5	SAVANNAH SPARROW		25
NORTHERN HARRIER	17	70	FOX SPARROW	10	3
SHARP-SHINNED HAWK	13	10	SONG SPARROW	258	221
COOPER'S HAWK	15	<b>20H</b>	LINCOLN'S SPARROW	1	3
ACCIPITER SP.		1	<b>WHITE-THROATED SPARROW</b>		<b>1</b>
RED-TAILED HAWK	102	<b>214H</b>	<b>HARRIS'S SPARROW</b>	<b>1</b>	
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK	1	1	WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW	545	1540
AMERICAN KESTREL	64	115	GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW	128	65
MERLIN	4	<b>6H</b>	DARK-EYED (SLATE-COLORED) JUNCO	4	
<b>PEREGRINE FALCON</b>		<b>1</b>	DARK-EYED (OREGON) JUNCO	1001	709
PRAIRIE FALCON	2	7	RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD	343	1305
VIRGINIA RAIL	6	3	WESTERN MEADOWLARK	1	37
AMERICAN COOT	31	1	BREWER'S BLACKBIRD	297	1598
KILLDEER	7	10	BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD	2	41
<b>SPOTTED SANDPIPER</b>	<b>CW</b>		PURPLE FINCH	4	
WILSON'S SNIPE	5	7	<b>CASSIN'S FINCH</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>RING-BILLED GULL</b>	<b>CW</b>		HOUSE FINCH	704	749
ROCK PIGEON	399	<b>1836H</b>	AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	198	185
EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE	349	<b>317H</b>	HOUSE SPARROW	874	699
MOURNING DOVE	431	207			
BARN OWL	1	4	<b>TOTAL INDIVIDUALS</b>	<b>16997</b>	<b>16525</b>
WESTERN SCREECH-OWL	4	1	<b>TOTAL SPECIES</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>84</b>
GREAT HORNED OWL	13	<b>14H</b>		<b>+2 FORMS</b>	<b>0 FORMS</b>
BARRED OWL	2		<b>COUNT WEEK SPECIES</b>	<b>3</b>	
SHORT-EARED OWL		6			
ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD	2		<b>COMBINED SPECIES FOR BOTH COUNTS</b>		<b>98</b>
BELTED KINGFISHER	28	19	<b>N</b> — New species or subspecies for the count		
DOWNY WOODPECKER	71	17	<b>H</b> — All-time high for individuals of that species		
HAIRY WOODPECKER	1	1	<b>L</b> — Very low number of individuals of that species as compared to other years		
NO. (RED-SHAFTED) FLICKER	202	176	<b>CW</b> — Seen count week (three days before the count or three days after) but not count day		
<b>SAY'S PHOEBE</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>Bold Face</b> — Unusual species for our counts		
NORTHERN SHRIKE	2	8			
<b>BARN SWALLOW</b>	<b>1N</b>				

### Yakima Valley Audubon Society Membership

Join/renew your annual membership to YVAS to receive ten issues of the *Crier* and all chapter membership benefits.

Yakima Valley Audubon Membership .....\$ 25  
 Yakima Valley Audubon Senior (62+)/Student Membership .....\$ 15  
 Yakima Valley Audubon Life Membership .....\$ 500/household

I do not wish to receive any solicitation/communications from NAS check if applicable)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

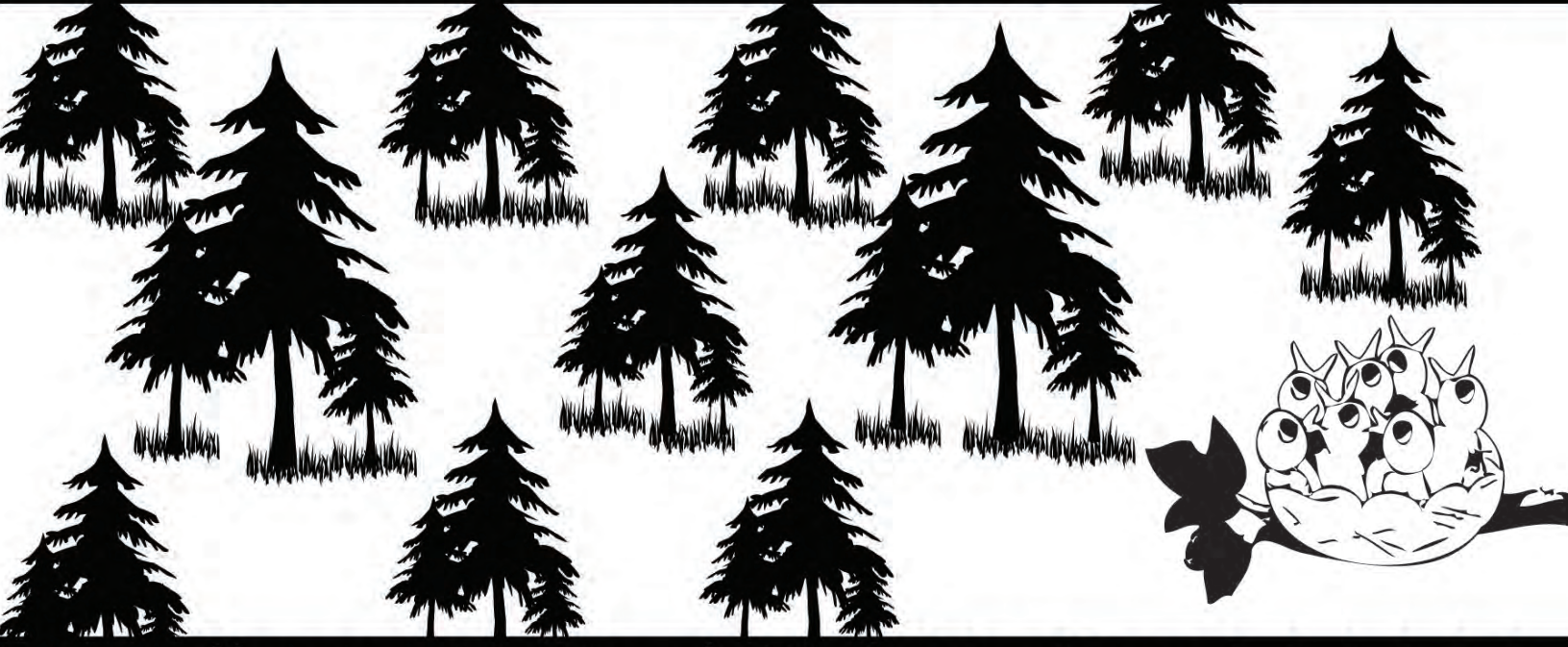
**\* If you have any questions on membership, please call Debie Brown at 248-3878**

### **2014 YAKIMA VALLEY AUDUBON OFFICERS AND BOARD**

President	Andy Stepniewski ( <a href="mailto:steppie@nwinfo.net">steppie@nwinfo.net</a> )	877-6639	Fund Raising	Dan Kinney ( <a href="mailto:insur3@charter.net">insur3@charter.net</a> )	452-3260
Vice President	vacant		Membership	Debie Brown ( <a href="mailto:sturnella@aol.com">sturnella@aol.com</a> )	248-3878
Past-president	Denny Granstrand ( <a href="mailto:dgranstrand@gmail.com">dgranstrand@gmail.com</a> )	453-2500	Newsletter Editor	Elizabeth Bohn ( <a href="mailto:elizabethannbohn@yahoo.com">elizabethannbohn@yahoo.com</a> )	901-1886
Secretary	Vera Backstrom ( <a href="mailto:vback47@gmail.com">vback47@gmail.com</a> )	731-2103	Programs	Bill Drenguis ( <a href="mailto:bdrenguis@gmail.com">bdrenguis@gmail.com</a> )	965-5808
Treasurer	Karen Zook ( <a href="mailto:gadzooks7@charter.net">gadzooks7@charter.net</a> )	225-9494	<b>Special Committees:</b>		
Directors:	Ken Tolonen ( <a href="mailto:Trivard@gmail.com">Trivard@gmail.com</a> )	965-4584	Bird Rehabilitator	Connie Hughes ( <a href="mailto:owlbirdlady@q.com">owlbirdlady@q.com</a> )	457-5661
	Joy McKinney ( <a href="mailto:joycatbird@gmail.com">joycatbird@gmail.com</a> )	698-4110	Bird Reports	Denny Granstrand ( <a href="mailto:dgranstrand@gmail.com">dgranstrand@gmail.com</a> )	453-2500
	April Adamson ( <a href="mailto:read2learn@aol.com">read2learn@aol.com</a> )	248-6944	Bluebird Trail	Richard Repp ( <a href="mailto:rich712@aol.com">rich712@aol.com</a> )	965-1134
			Important Bird Areas	John Hebert ( <a href="mailto:hejohn1126@msn.com">hejohn1126@msn.com</a> )	965-8235
<b>Standing (Voting) Committee Chairs:</b>			Publicity	Vacant	
Audubon Hoeger Preserve	vacant		Social	Vacant	
Audubon Refuge Keeper	Kerry Turley ( <a href="mailto:kdturley@embarqmail.com">kdturley@embarqmail.com</a> )	837-6930	Volunteer Recognition	Vacant	
Bluebird Trail	Richard Repp ( <a href="mailto:rich712@aol.com">rich712@aol.com</a> )	965-1134	Webmaster	John Hebert ( <a href="mailto:hejohn1126@msn.com">hejohn1126@msn.com</a> )	965-8235
Conservation	Greg Bohn ( <a href="mailto:gsanpdro@charter.net">gsanpdro@charter.net</a> )	901-1882	Website	www.yakimaaudubon.org	
Education	Ellen Stepniewski ( <a href="mailto:steppie@nwinfo.net">steppie@nwinfo.net</a> )	877-6639	Toppenish NWR CBC	Luke Safford ( <a href="mailto:luke@terraceheightsbaptist.com">luke@terraceheightsbaptist.com</a> )	833-6081
Field Trips	Luke Safford ( <a href="mailto:luke@terraceheightsbaptist.com">luke@terraceheightsbaptist.com</a> )	833-6081	Yakima Valley CBC	Denny Granstrand ( <a href="mailto:dgranstrand@gmail.com">dgranstrand@gmail.com</a> )	453-2500
	Jan Gano ( <a href="mailto:gano12@earthlink.net">gano12@earthlink.net</a> )	966-4539	YVAS Email	( <a href="mailto:birds@yakimaaudubon.org">birds@yakimaaudubon.org</a> )	



Birding Basics Class - see page 4 for details



Enrollment Limited, Sign Up Now ! ! ! ! !



## Coming Attractions:

1. Chapter Meeting Jan 23, 7 pm
2. White Swan Raptor Tour Feb 1
3. Great Backyard Bird Count Feb 14-17
4. SW Wash. Weekend Feb 14-17
5. 1st Birding Basics Class Feb 26