

The Raven

The mission of Juneau Audubon Society is to conserve the natural ecosystems of Southeast Alaska, focusing on birds, other wildlife and their habitats for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations.



Volume 30, Number 1

Juneau Audubon Society

September 2003

September Almanac

Fall migration

Shorebirds & waterfowl pass through Southeast Alaska to wintering grounds, more leisurely and less concentrated than in spring.

Sandhill cranes travel the Pacific Flyway from breeding grounds in the Bristol Bay lowlands, Alaska Peninsula and Cook Inlet-Susitna Valley to their wintering grounds in the Central Valley of California

A long winter's nap

Marmots begin hibernating

Breeding season



Moose rut peaks in late September/early October in Chilkat and Stikine River valleys.

Monthly Meeting

Thursday, September 11, 7:30 p.m.
Dzantik'i Heeni Middle School Library

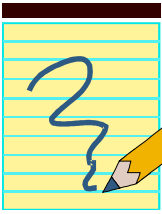
Berners Bay John Hudson

Only forty miles by road from Alaska's capital city, Berners Bay is Juneau's background wilderness playground. This easily accessed yet wild area is known for its spectacular beauty, solitude, and abundant wildlife populations including wolverine, moose, wolves, humpback whales, and more. John Hudson of Friends of Berners Bay will present images of the bay by Juneau's finest photographers. Learn about the bay's earliest inhabitants, the Auk Kwaan, the area's rich mining history, and the incredible wildlife feeding frenzy that occurs each spring during the hooligan spawning run. John will also discuss various development threats to the bay.

Annual meeting and election of officers

Juneau Audubon Society holds its annual meeting to elect officers in conjunction with the public meeting on October 9. Our by-laws instruct the president to appoint a nominating committee of three members to nominate two or more members for each vacancy. Our officers serve a term of one year, so all officers need to be elected each year. Nominations from the floor at the annual meeting are accepted for all positions.

Our present officers have agreed to serve another term. They are Brenda Wright, president; Chris Kent, vice-president; Liz Blecker, treasurer; Deanna MacPhail, secretary. Please contact any of the officers or board members if you are interested in serving on the nominating committee, would like to be on the ballot as an officer, or are willing to volunteer for any of our standing committees. Our standing committees include membership, program, field trip, education, conservation, and newsletter.



A message from the board

National Audubon Society regional director election results

We are pleased to announce the election of Steve Zimmerman, local Juneau Audubon Society member and past president, to the post of National Audubon Society Regional Director for the Alaska/Hawaii/Guam Region. Steve will represent our region's local conservation concerns on the National Audubon Society board.

Steve included the following in his candidate statement:

“With over three decades of professional involvement in scientific and regulatory issues in both Hawaii and Alaska, I can be a strong voice for focusing Audubon's resources on the issues that are most important to our 49th and 50th states. These appear to be challenging times for conservation causes across the country. I have the time, dedication, and zeal to try to help counteract the rising tide of anti-environmentalism. Audubon, with its emphasis on science and education, is perhaps the best group to lead that effort and I look forward to energizing the national board in confronting attempts to weaken protection for ecosystems, particularly those in Hawaii and Alaska.”

We look forward to Steve's representation and his reports back to us on the events occurring at a national level. Congratulations and Good Luck Steve!

Raven goes (even more) electronic



Information previously published in the monthly newsletter, such as U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits of particular significance, recent bird sightings and results of bird counts, will now be posted on our website, <http://www.juneau-audubon-society.org>. A shorter version of The Raven, with the monthly meeting program, upcoming chapter events, important environmental issues, special features, and messages from the board, will continue to be sent to all Juneau Audubon members either by e-mail if you have requested that version, or by regular mail.

This change is due in part to shrinking financial support from National Audubon Society. In the past Juneau Audubon Society has received a rebate from National Audubon Society dues for each member to cover chapter expenses. That money has been used to cover printing and postage for The Raven, which is our single largest annual expense. Direct financial support to chapters has already been cut 50% and will be gone entirely by 2005.

To get all your chapter news on line, send an e-mail to education@juneau-audubon-society.org to request the Raven in either rich text (read by most word processing programs) or Adobe Acrobat. If you have Acrobat Reader, you can receive the Raven in a format that looks just like the print version but with occasional touches of color. Rich text versions will not contain graphics. To change your newsletter from rich text to Adobe Acrobat, contact raven@juneau-audubon-society.org.

October Raven Deadline

Please submit articles for the October Raven by September 19 to raven@juneau-audubon-society.org



THE PEACE OF WILD THINGS

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

Wendell Berry

Migration documentary garners wide praise

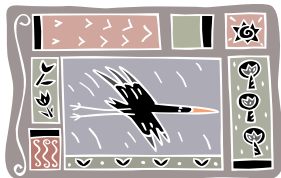
The stellar reviews of “Winged Migration,” a new documentary film that explores the mystery and spectacle of bird flight, have not been limited to avid birders.

The film offers a bird’s eye view of epic migrations throughout the world through cameras mounted on the birds themselves and ultra-light aircraft flying along with the birds. Filmmaker Jacques Perrin used five field crews totaling more than 450 people. Produced by Sony Pictures Classics, it has been nominated for an academy award.

Audubon Nebraska’s Sanctuary Director Paul Tebbel and his staff at the Lillian Annette Rowe Sanctuary assisted filmmakers with unparalleled views of Sandhills, one of the film’s featured species.

For more information on the film see <http://www.sonyclassics.com/wingedmigration/home.html>

Juneau Audubon Society begins our active fall/winter season this month. Our role in speaking on behalf of a healthier environment for all living things is more crucial than ever. You can be a part of this vital effort by taking an active part in your chapter. Contact any of the officers on page 4 to learn more.



My Favorite Bird returns next month.

Juneau Audubon Society has members in Coffman Cove, Craig, Funter Bay, Gustavus, Haines, Hydaburg, Juneau, Ketchikan, Pelican, Petersburg, Sitka, Skagway, Tenakee Springs, Thorne Bay, Ward Cove, Wrangell

Every membership supports Audubon's vital efforts to protect birds, wildlife and natural habitats. As a member, you will become an important part of our chapter and receive a host of benefits including:

- A one-year subscription (9 issues) of our chapter newsletter, *The Raven*
- Automatic membership in National Audubon Society and a one-year subscription to the award-winning Audubon magazine.

Audubon Society Membership Application

_____ \$20 (1-year introductory rate) _____ \$15 (1-year student/senior rate)

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zipcode _____

Telephone number _____

____ My check for \$ _____ is enclosed _____ Please bill me

Mail to: National Audubon Society, Membership Data Center, P.O. Box 52529, Boulder, CO 80322-2529

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If you prefer to just support Juneau Audubon Society, fill out the form above and send with \$10 to: Juneau Audubon Society, P.O. Box 021725, Juneau, AK 99802, Attn.: membership. NOTE: if you wish to join National Audubon Society, please send your check with the membership application to Boulder, CO.

Officers, Committee Chairs, Events Coordinators

President:	Brenda Wright, 789-4656, president@juneau-audubon-society.org
Vice-President:	Chris Kent, 463-3494, vice-president@juneau-audubon-society.org
Secretary:	Deanna MacPhail, 789-0651, secretary@juneau-audubon-society.org
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