Admiralty Audubon Pipings
AAS Field Trips May & June 2019

1st Saturday Nature Walk at Fort Flagler
Saturday, 4 May 2019, 9am
Meet at the usual boat ramp just north of the Beachcomber Cafe in the lower campground. My blue Ford F150 pickup will be near the log across the old boat ramp. We first walk to the end of the spit toward Rat Island. This takes about an hour. We then drive to Marrowstone Point near the USGS Fisheries lab. We walk to the point to scope birds. Optionally, we will visit the sewage ponds and finish up by noon. Wear layers depending on the weather. Trip Leader John Comstock: 360-316-1305.

Plants for Birding
Saturday, 18 May 2019, 9am
Meet at the Port Townsend Park and Ride. We will walk from the parking lot up hill to visit two landscapes where landscaping with native plants and other features suitable to native songbirds has been the priority focus. Walking distance approximately one mile. Those with walking disabilities can drive to the locations we plan to visit. We then will return to the Park and Ride, then time permitting carpool to a third landscape. Trip Leader Ron Sikes. RSVP to 360-385-0307 or email b1rdbus@gmail.com.

Andover Lake State Park
Tuesday, 21 May 2019, 9am
Enjoy 2 to 2 1/2 hours around the lake. Bring your water and binoculars and appropriate shoes and clothing. There should be a wide variety of woodpeckers, warblers, Common Yellowthroat, swallows, Western Tanagers and other migrants. I prefer a small group of up to 6 people. Trip Leader Beverly McNeil: Call 360-385-9730 for details and possible carpool.

1st Saturday Nature Walk at Fort Flagler
Saturday, 1 June 2019, 9am
See First Saturday Nature Walk information in left column. Trip Leader John Comstock: 360-316-1305.

Andover Lake State Park
Saturday, 15 June 2019, 9:30am
Field trip at Anderson Lake for migrant warblers, flycatchers, swallows, hawks and maybe something new and different will show up on our bird walk. Meet me at the parking area near the comfort stations at 9:30 am for a 2 hour walk along trails and boat launch area. Bring binoculars, camera, water and wear sturdy shoes. Trip Leader Paula Vanderheul: pvanderheul@gmail.com or 360-379-8564.

AAS Kah Tai Workparties May & June 2019

Sunday, 19 May 2019, 9 - 11:30am
Admiralty Audubon will be sponsoring a work-party at Duck Heaven on Sunday, 19 May from 9am-11:30am followed by a potluck at Pope Marine Park at noon. Duck Heaven is located on the NE corner of Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park. We will be weeding around the plantings from last year. Park on 19th/Blaine Street, near the Kearney Street intersection. Bring pruners and work gloves if you have them. Lys Burden will be providing a 20 minute program on the new Chetzemoka Interpretive Trail while we eat at the potluck at Pope Marine Park following the work-party. For information email prose53@gmail.com or call 360-385-0307.

Hermit Thrush at Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park, April 2019.

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clockwise from upper left: Bewick’s Wren in a clearcut near Beckett Point, 2010; Joseph Molotsky and Kenadie at Discovery Bay Wild Bird Rescue, 2018 (story on p. 4); Pileated Woodpecker feeding young, Cape George 2018; Bewick’s Wren checking out alternate transportation, April 2019; Bewick’s Wren, Fort Flagler, April 2019 - it’s Bewick’s season!
Helen Engle’s legacy - a local impact

Helen Engle’s passing in March 2019 was a profound loss for her family as well as for all who value wildlife and conservation. In addition to her role in starting numerous conservation organizations and so many of our state Audubon chapters, our own chapter has a particular connection. Back in 1980, when the effort to protect Kah Tai Lagoon from development via a Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant appeared doomed to failure, we received funding from the Secretary of the Interior’s Contingency Fund, due in part to support from Helen Engle, who wrote the letter shown below (found in National Park Service archives) in her capacity as the Director of the National Audubon Society Board of Directors. Admiralty Audubon officially adopted Kah Tai Lagoon Nature Park nearly two decades ago. Our chapter offers condolences to her family and friends, and our gratitude for her legacy.

HELEN ENGLE
4011 Alameda Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98466
(206) 564-3112

November 19, 1980

Glenn Moore, Chief Project Services Division
Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation
4800 Capitol Blvd. KP-11
Tumwater, WA 98504

Dear Glenn:

This letter is to offer my enthusiastic support for the efforts being made to protect the remainder of Kah Tai Lagoon at Port Townsend.

During my years on the Washington Environmental Council Board I participated in efforts by WEC and other organizations to save this lagoon for its valuable wildlife and esthetic resources. The struggle was not always successful and I am heartened now to know that there is a good chance to get some 45 acres of the lagoon into protected status.

I understand that the Port of Port Townsend and the Crown Zellerbach Company are working together for setting aside this wetlands area at the entrance to historic Port Townsend. They are to be commended for this effort.

In speaking recently with David Goldsmith of the County Planning Department I learned of the cooperation of Jefferson County government for this excellent land use planning decision.

Please know you have my support in your request for $118,000 for Kah Tai Lagoon’s small, but important, habitat. That is excellent use of land and water conservation fund money.

Sincerely,

Helen Engle
Immediate Past President, Washington Environmental Council
Director, National Audubon Society Board of Directors

May 2019
AAS Community Program, Thursday, 16 May 2019, 7pm  
*Port Townsend Community Center, Lawrence & Tyler; the public is invited*

**Birds of Botswana**

*Thursday, 16 May 2019, 7pm*

Please join us when Milt Lum, amateur photographer, will be sharing photos of birds and a few animals taken on his photo safari to Botswana in 2016. He will also share a couple of safari stories and his reflections on Africa (see two of Milt's bird photos on p.5).

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**Rosemary Sikes**
Admiralty Audubon Programs Chair

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**Port Townsend High School student to attend National Audubon meeting in Milwaukee in July**

At the recent regional Audubon chapter meeting in Sequim, our attending board members, Ron and Rosemary Sikes and Craig Wester, were informed by state Audubon staff that more scholarships might be available for student attendance at the National Audubon meeting in Milwaukee in July 2019, and we were encouraged to apply in case additional scholarships were released. Our chapter board considered the issue and decided that sending a student to the convention was an appropriate step to further advance our chapter goals for education, whether or not a scholarship becomes available.

We are pleased to announce that Port Townsend High School student Joseph Molotsky will be attending the National Convention along with his father Daniel to represent our chapter. Joseph has been volunteering with Discovery Bay Wild Bird Rescue for several years. He submitted a proposal for a poster on the impacts of lead on eagles, addressing lead in the environment, the effects of lead on birds and the treatment necessary to rehabilitate and save the lives of eagles with lead toxicosis. He will also address potential policy solutions and show how wilderness rehabilitation centers are on the front lines of identifying emerging problems in bird populations. National only accepted 50 poster proposals, and Joseph’s proposal was accepted!

Joseph has worked extensively with Kenadie, a Golden Eagle who has been blinded by lead toxicosis after ingesting prey that had been shot. Kenadie suffered a head injury when he was hit by a car because he was unable to avoid the collision since lead poisoning also slows reaction time. A photograph on page 2 illustrates the trust developed between Kenadie and Joseph. Kenadie is now an ambassador bird for Discovery Bay Wild Bird Rescue, as he will never be able to survive independently again.

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**AAS Membership Form 2019**

http://admiraltyaudubon.org

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Would you prefer your newsletter by email? ☐  paper copy? ☐  amount enclosed $ __________

Send $20 annual membership to:  **Admiralty Audubon, PO Box 666, Port Townsend WA 98368**
or pay online at the ‘Join’ link via PayPal or credit card

Membership includes 6 issues of our newsletter per year and the right to vote in chapter elections. Chapter programs and field trips are free to the public. We always welcome donations! Dues and donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Admiralty Audubon is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

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May is the time for our chapter’s annual elections of our Board. Elections will take place at our May community meeting on 16 May (see page 2). We elect our officers - president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, while other Board members serve as appointed by the elected members. All four of our current elected Board have indicated that they are willing to serve another term.

Nominations for the positions can be submitted to any of the non-elected Board members (see contact list above) who serve as the nominating committee. We welcome nominations for at-large board members as well. If you believe you have a contribution to make as a Board member of our chapter, let us know that you are interested in serving.