

2018 Wings Over Water

EVENT SCHEDULE:

Details will be updated frequently, so please check back often

Friday, March 16, 2018

Bus Charter Guided Field Trip to Reifel Bird Sanctuary, Delta, B.C., Canada

8:00 am to 4:00 pm. (Return time is approximate due to unpredictable border wait times.)

Where: Departure at 8:00 am from Birch Bay Square (Behind Woods Coffee) 8130 Birch Bay Square Rd, (Off I-5 Exit 270).

Cost: \$42 includes bus charter, entrance fee and bag of bird seed. Lunch: Additional fee for Subway lunch options or bring your own lunch. (No glass containers)

Experience a guided field trip to one of Canada's top birding sites, George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary, just 40 minutes across the border in Delta, B.C., Canada. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. Please note: A passport or an enhanced driver's license is required for crossing the US/Canada border. **Sponsored by Mike Kent, Windermere Realty**

Space is limited. [Click Here for Online Registration.](#)

WOW Festival Opening and Artist Reception

Friday, March 16, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Where: The Vault Wine Bar, 277 G Street, Blaine

Cost: \$TBD * Please check back for more details.

Everyone is invited to the 16th annual Wings Over Water Opening and Artist Reception at the new Vault Wine Bar! Enjoy food and wine. Meet this year's featured artist, Annie Moorehead and enjoy an exhibit of her realistic, fine detailed bird watercolors in addition to a gallery of bird images by local and professional photographers. The reception will also include a silent auction and presentation by Ric Zarwell from Rock Jumper Worldwide Birding Adventures.

An Irish buffet menu is currently being taste tested! Please check back for cost and updates!

Space is limited. [Click Here for Online Registration.](#)

Saturday, March 17, 2018

Festival Headquarters-Registration & Information

Where: Blaine Middle School, 975 H Street, Blaine

When: 8:30 am

Register, make reservations and purchase tickets for fieldtrips and activities.

Blaine Community Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, March 17, 8:00 am to 11:00 am

Where: Blaine Community Center, 763 G Street, Blaine, WA (Across the Street from Blaine Middle School)

Cost: Adults \$6, Children \$4 (Breakfast tickets sold at the Blaine Community Center)

Start the day at the Blaine Community Center with a hearty breakfast of pancakes, waffles, biscuits & gravy or French toast, scrambled eggs, sausage, coffee & OJ.

WOW All Day Birding Expo & Vendors, Festival Headquarters & Information

Saturday, March 17, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Where: Blaine Middle School, 975 H Street, Blaine

Cost: Free (Fees do apply for some activities. (See detailed schedule for more information))

Enjoy many free activities for the whole family, including expert wildlife speakers, Sardis Raptor Center live raptor presentations, kids' activities, Birdtastic Kids' Art Station, food, art & craft vendors, wildlife exhibits and displays. The Festival Registration Desk will open at 8:30 am for making reservations and purchasing tickets for fieldtrips and activities. **Expo sponsored by BP Cherry Point Refinery**

Birding Field Trip to Semiahmoo Spit, led by Paul Woodcock & Jim Jorgensen

Saturday, March 17, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm

Where: Bus departs in front of the Blaine Middle School Cafeteria (975 H St., Blaine)

Cost: \$5 (Includes snack)

Space is limited. [Click Here](#) for Online Registration or register in person on Saturday, starting at 8:30 am at Blaine Middle School, 975 H Street.

This field trip offers both the novice and experienced birder the best opportunity to explore the abundance of birds along Semiahmoo Spit, a 1.25 mile natural land spit located between Semiahmoo Bay and Drayton Harbor. Enjoy a scenic bus ride around Drayton Harbor, and learn about the fascinating geology of the area from Jim Jorgensen, whose background as a geology and ornithology teacher will help you discover what makes this such an intriguing area and premiere birding location. Take a leisurely two-hour walk led by naturalist Paul Woodcock, vice-president of the North Cascades Audubon, on both a paved walking trail and along the beach to view birds close at hand. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. There will also be an opportunity to visit the Alaska Packers Association Museum to learn about the history of the area from Sunny Brown, APA Museum Coordinator.

Sponsored by AMS- Automated Mailing and Print Services

Salish Sea Open Water Birding & Wildlife Cruise, by San Juan Cruises

Saturday, March 17, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm (Arrive at the boat dock no later than 9:45 am. Boat departs promptly at 10:00 am)

Where: Semiahmoo Resort Plover Dock on Semiahmoo Spit, 9565 Semiahmoo Dr., Blaine

Cost: \$50 per person.

Seating is limited and may be sold out prior to the festival: [Click Here](#) for Online Registration

Available seats may be purchased in person on Saturday, March 17 starting at 8:30 am at WOW Festival Headquarters, Blaine Middle School, 975 H Street, Blaine.

Join us for a two-hour offshore cruise from Semiahmoo Spit aboard the 50' Salish Sea. View a diverse variety of birds in the rich waters of Boundary Bay and Semiahmoo Bay. Professional naturalists will be aboard to help spot the birds and wildlife you'll see along the way. Dress for inclement weather, bring binoculars and camera. The Salish Sea has indoor seating, as well as ample outdoor viewing areas on two levels of the boat. Cruise is subject to cancellation due to rough sea conditions. If this should

happen, prepaid registration fees will be refunded. **Sponsored by Semiahmoo Shores Waterfront Community**

Plover Passenger Ferry Nature Cruises

Saturday, March 17, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm (Departure on the Hour)

Where: Blaine Harbor Boating Center, Visitor Dock, 235 Marine Drive, Blaine

Cost: \$5

NOTE: Ticket sales will not be available at the dock. Tickets are available prior to the festival online or in person at WOW Festival Headquarters, Blaine Middle School (975 H St.) before you arrive at the dock.

The historic Plover Ferry will take passengers on an approximately 45 minute nature cruise along Drayton Harbor & Semiahmoo Bay. A knowledgeable birder will be on board to point out the wildlife and birds along the way. Dress appropriately for inclement weather. **Sponsored by Blaine Harbor, Port of Bellingham.**

For details on MV Plover Passenger Ferry, visit: DraytonHarborMaritime.com

The Plover Ferry trips are subject to cancellation due to rough sea conditions. If this should happen, prepaid registration fees will be refunded.

Seating is limited and may be sold out prior to the festival: [Click Here for Online Registration](#)

Tickets for available seats may also be purchased in person on Saturday, March 17 starting at 8:30 am at the Blaine Middle School, 975 H Street, Blaine.

Kids' Activities, sponsored by Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District 2

Saturday, March 17, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Where: Blaine Middle School, 975 H Street, Blaine, WA

Cost: Free

All day kids' activities, including arts & crafts, games, face painting and some wild surprises!

Kids' Birdhouse Building

Saturday, March 17, 10:00 am 'till gone

Where: Blaine Middle School, 975 H Street, Blaine, WA

Cost: Recommended Donation \$2

Build a bird house to invite local birds to make your back yard their home. (For children to age 14, while supplies last.) **Sponsored by Pacific Building Center**

North Cascades Audubon Society Bird Viewing Stations

Saturday, March 17, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Where: Viewing Station maps will be available at the festival headquarters, Blaine Middle School.

Cost: Free

Seeing is Believing! You will be amazed at the number of interesting bird species you can see close at hand and viewed through a spotting scope. Knowledgeable birders from North Cascade Audubon will assist and answer questions. **Sponsored by North Cascade Audubon**

Swans of Winter, by Martha Jordan

Saturday, March 17, 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Where: Blaine Performing Arts Center, 975 H Street, Blaine, WA

Cost: Free

Trumpeter swans, the largest waterfowl in the world, have been brought back from the brink of extinction and once again grace our skies and waterways. Join Martha Jordan, well-known swan biologist and Executive Director of Northwest Swan Conservation Association, a regional non-profit. Learn about the life history and biology of Washington's native trumpeter and tundra swans, as well as discover ways you can contribute to our understanding of these magnificent birds by doing what you already enjoy doing outdoors. **Sponsored by Chemelick, Sitkin and Davis Law Firm**

Alaska Packers Association Cannery and Fishing Museum

Saturday, March 17, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Where: 9261 Semiahmoo Parkway, Blaine, WA

Cost: Free (donations welcome)

Experience local maritime history. Housed in an original Alaska Packers cannery building, the museum's exhibits tell the story of days gone by and include a scale model fish trap, antique machinery, a gallery of historic photos, and an original 28 foot Bristol Bay fishing boat. Sunny Brown, APA Museum Coordinator, will be available to provide a presentation about this rich time in Blaine's history.

For more information about the museum, go to: DraytonHarborMaritime.com

Kids' "Bird Art" Workshop, by Annie Moorehead

Saturday, March 17, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Where: Blaine Middle School Classroom, 975 H Street, Blaine, WA

Maximum 12 participants (Ages 5 and up)

Cost: Free

Featured Artist Annie Moorehead will guide children in a bird-related art project activity. **Sponsored by T.C. Trading Company, Cold Storage and Border Solutions**

Wildlife Presentation: "Eagles in Our Midst" by David Hancock

Saturday, March 17, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

Where: Blaine Performing Arts Center, 975 H Street, Blaine, WA

Cost: Free

Biologist, filmmaker, writer, and publisher David Hancock will discuss the once endangered eagles that are a conservation success story. Over 70,000 of these majestic birds are thriving in North America today! We are fortunate to live close to these magnificent birds, which thrive in our region. Learn how we can be good neighbors to these fascinating wild friends. **Sponsored by Ed & Pat Kingshott**

Live Raptor Presentation: "Hunters of the Sky" by Sardis Raptor Center

Saturday, March 17, Noon to 1:30 pm

Where: Blaine Middle School Cafeteria, 975 H Street, Blaine, WA

Cost: Free

This is an exciting opportunity to have up-close encounters with many magnificent birds of prey, including owls, hawks, falcons, and eagles. All birds shown have injuries that prevent their return to the wild and are residents of the center. **Sponsored by Bob and Lois Franco**

Birds and their Nests: Presentation by Joe Meche

Saturday, March 17, 10:30 am – 11:30 am

Where: Blaine Harbor Boating Center, 235 Marine Drive, Blaine

Through his intimate observation and photography of nesting birds, Joe will discuss and illustrate the variety of nests found locally and elaborates on the concept of manmade nesting boxes. Afterward, at noon join Joe for a birding fieldtrip around Blaine Harbor. **Sponsored by Lummi Island Wild**

Birding Field Trip, Blaine Harbor Loop, by Joe Meche

Saturday, March 17, Noon to 2:00 pm

Where: Meet at Blaine Harbor Boating Center, 235 Marine Drive, Blaine, WA

Cost: Free

Drive a short distance to join a birding field trip led by Joe Meche. Joe, a birder for over 60 years, knows this area intimately as a premiere birding destination. See a diversity of bird species along this leisurely 2-mile loop along the waterfront, including raptors, dabblers, divers, shore birds, and song birds.

Sponsored by Fortiphi Insurance

Advanced Photography Workshop, by Instructor, Ken Salzman

Saturday, March 17, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm (Includes classroom and time out in the field)

Where: Blaine Middle School Classroom, 975 H Street, Blaine

Cost: \$20

This is an excellent opportunity for photographers to learn advanced tips and techniques in wildlife photography with an emphasis on bird photography. Ken will take you through what you need to know about camera settings, techniques and the best ways to find and set up to get great shots of birds in action and from an artistic point of view. The workshop uses photographs, personal experiences and interaction with students to communicate key ideas and includes a field trip for some "hands-on" instruction. Ken Salzman, an avid birder and photographer since 1981, also teaches photography courses at Whatcom Community College. Visit his website at www.kensalzman.zenfolio.com

Space is limited and may be sold out prior to the festival: [Click Here for Online Registration](#)

Space available may be purchased in person on Saturday, March 17 starting at 8:30 am at WOW Festival Headquarters, Blaine Middle School, 975 H Street, Blaine.

Salish Sea Open Water Birding & Wildlife Cruise, by San Juan Cruises

Saturday, March 17, 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm (Arrive at dock by 12:15 – Boat leaves promptly at 12:30 pm).

Where: Boat departs from Semiahmoo Resort Plover Dock, Semiahmoo Spit, 9565 Semiahmoo Dr., Blaine.

Cost: \$50 per person

Seating is limited and may be sold out prior to the festival: [Click Here for Online Registration](#)

Tickets for available seats may be purchased in person on Saturday, March 17 starting at 8:30 am at WOW Festival Headquarters, Blaine Middle School, 975 H Street, Blaine.

Join us for a two-hour off shore cruise from Semiahmoo Spit aboard the 50' Salish Sea. View a diverse variety of birds in the rich waters of Boundary Bay and Semiahmoo Bay. Professional naturalists will be aboard to help spot the birds and wildlife you'll see along the way. Dress for inclement weather, bring binoculars and camera. The Salish Sea has indoor seating, as well as ample outdoor viewing areas on

two levels of the boat. Cruise is subject to cancellation due to rough sea conditions. If this should happen, prepaid registration fees will be refunded. **Sponsored by Big Al's Diner, D Street Shell Station**

Blaine Elementary Nightingale Choir, led by Blaine School Music Instructor, Brian Myrick

Saturday, March 17, 2:00 pm to 2:45 pm

Where: Blaine School Performing Art Center, 975 H Street, Blaine, WA

Cost: Free

The Blaine Elementary Nightingale Choir will perform a delightful arrangement of songs about our feathered friends!

What is a Warbler? by Deborah Allen

Saturday, March 17, 3pm to 4 pm:

Where: Blaine School Performing Arts Center, 975 H Street, Blaine, WA

Cost: Free

Small and colorful, warblers are the birds every birder wants to see. The smallest, Northern Parula, is a little more than four inches from beak to tail, the largest only six inches long. Generally, warblers make a living by eating insects, so their bills are small and slender. You might recognize some of the warblers that live nearby like Yellow-rumped Warblers and Common Yellowthroats. In the Pacific Northwest half-a-dozen different kinds of warblers are easy to find, and there are many others. We'll also take a look at some of the eastern warblers that may visit Washington State. **Sponsored by Semiahmoo Women's Club**

Deborah Allen's bird photos have appeared in numerous publications, including *BirdWatching*, *Bird Watcher's Digest*, *Birds and Blooms*, *National Wildlife*, *National Parks*, *Natural History*, and the *New York Times*. She leads bird tours with Robert DeCandido and is currently finishing a Field Guide to the Birds of Central Park for Columbia University Press.

Featured Presentation by Dr. Robert DeCandido

A Bird's Eye View of Migration Worldwide: From the Pacific Coast to the Far, Far East

Saturday, March 17, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Where: Blaine School Performing Arts Center, 975 H Street, Blaine, WA

Cost: Free (donations welcome)

In the Pacific Northwest, we see large numbers and species of birds migrating in the fall along the Pacific Flyway from their northern breeding grounds to warmer climates and richer feeding areas in the south. But what about other parts of the world? Do birds migrate at roughly the same time of the year as ours, and resemble the kinds of birds seen here? Robert's talk will focus on such similarities and differences of bird migration in the Pacific Northwest and other bird migratory "hot spots" from his research site far, far, east of Washington State: the east coast of southern Thailand. He will present interesting data along with images of amazing birds he has collected over his many years of observations from this Far East location. Dr. Robert DeCandido was born and raised in the Bronx, New York, and has been studying bird (primarily raptor) migration since the 1980s, first in New York City and since 1999 in Nepal and Thailand. With Deborah Allen, he leads bird walks in Central Park—see www.BirdingBob.com for his scientific and popular articles on bird migration research, available for free download, along with a large selection of bird and landscape photos from Asia, Israel and New York City. **Sponsored by Kathy Stauffer, Windermere Real Estate**

Sunday, March 18, 2018

Breakfast for Birders

Sunday, March 18, 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Where: BP Heron Center, Birch Bay State Park, 7878 Birch Bay Drive, Blaine.

Cost: \$15 for Adults, \$10 for children under 12

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park.

Seating is limited and may be sold out prior to festival Click here for Online Reservations.

You may also purchase available seating on Saturday at the festival headquarters, Blaine Middle School Cafeteria, 975 H St., Blaine, WA.

Enjoy a delicious breakfast and presentation by Deborah Allen, Birding in Special Places.

Northwest Washington State is special when it comes to birding, and so are large, urban centers like New York City! This presentation compares birding in our local, special places (from Reifel, B.C., and Boundary Bay, to Blaine, and Bow-Edison) to birds and birding in New York City. Come and explore why birders travel here from all over the world. **Sponsored by Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce and Dave & Deb Hiller of Rockwood Realty.**

Deborah Allen lives in New York City and often travels to Bellingham, where her mother lives, so she is very familiar with special places to go birding in both locations. She also leads bird tours at New York City's Central Park with Robert DeCandido, this year's Wings over Water featured speaker. Deborah's bird photos have appeared in numerous publications, including *BirdWatching*, *Bird Watcher's Digest*, *Birds and Blooms*, *National Wildlife*, *National Parks*, *Natural History*, and the *New York Times*. She is currently completing a Field Guide to the Birds of Central Park for Columbia University Press. To view some of her photos, please visit www.agpix.com/deballen.

Birch Bay Photo Walk

Sunday, March 18, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

Where: BP Heron Center, Birch Bay State Park*, 7878 Birch Bay Drive, Blaine.

Cost: Free

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park.

Wayne Diaz and Chuck Kinzer will lead a photo walk along Birch Bay Drive and in the Birch Bay State Park. They will provide insights into the birds of the area and where and how to watch and capture images of our feathered friends. Bring your camera!

Chuck and Wayne are members of the Wings Over Water Planning Committee and photograph birds and wildlife with an emphasis on resident and migrating birds in Blaine, Semiahmoo and Birch Bay. Each has won multiple awards for their photography. Wayne and Chuck are well known in the community, and lead photo walks in and around Whatcom County

Birding Walk at Birch Bay

Sunday, March 18, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

Where: BP Heron Center, Birch Bay State Park* 7878 Birch Bay Drive, Blaine.

Cost: Free

Paul Woodcock will lead a bird walk around trails within Birch Bay State Park. Come and hear about birds in the park and find out about best viewing locations.

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park.

Photography Workshop: The Basics of Photographing Birds, by Instructor, Ken Salzman

Sunday, March 18, 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Where: BP Heron Center, Birch Bay State Park* 7878 Birch Bay Drive, Blaine.

Cost: FREE

Designed for beginner and novice photographers, this workshop will present the basics photographers need to know about capturing images of our feathered friends. Ken will share some of the tips and techniques that he has practiced for over 35 years of photographing birds. The workshop will be in the classroom. Your camera might come in handy to reference your camera's functions and settings, but you do not need to own a camera to take this class. Instructor Ken Salzman, an avid birder and photographer since 1981, also teaches photography courses at Whatcom Community College. Visit his website at www.kensalzman.zenfolio.com

*A Discover Pass or a \$10 day pass is required for parking within the state park.