

Marshnotes[®]



**BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY
WINTER 2012**

BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY

Managers of the George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary Since 1963

- dedicated to the study and conservation of migratory waterfowl-

Marshnotes:

Editor: Kathleen Fry

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Circulation: 2,400.

Published four times a year.

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Submissions, articles, photographs and letters for publication may be sent to the above address marked for attention of Marshnotes Editor. Please include your telephone number and the Editor will contact you.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF MARSHNOTES

APRIL 15th 2012

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Gift Shop Manager: Varri Raffan

Reception: Laura Jordison

Biologist: Shanna Fredericks

Maintenance: David McClue

Hours of Operation: 9:00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Every day. The Sanctuary is wheelchair accessible.

Admission:	Members:	Free
	Non-Members:	Adults: \$5 Children (2-14 yrs) and Seniors (60yrs +): \$3
	School Groups:	Special discounts; Pre-booking required.

About Our Covers

Front Cover: Male Hooded Merganser © Jim Martin

Back Cover: Snow-covered Saw-whet Owl © Laura Jordison

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Top Birds at the Sanctuary in 2011

Total Species Count for 2011
173 bird species seen in the Sanctuary

January Northern Gos- hawk	February Brant	March Western Mead- owlark
April Magnolia War- bler	May Black-throated Gray Warbler	June Common Nighthawk
July Eastern King- bird	August Green Heron	September Stilt Sandpiper
October Long-tailed Duck	November Snowy Owl	December Common Red- poll

Text: Varri Raffan, Gift Shop Manager

The Top Bird for 2011- Snowy Owl



Photo: Jim Martin



Thank You, Patricia!

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to Patricia Banning-Lover for her dedication to editing and producing Marshnotes for the past 19 years. Patricia polished this publication to the standard it is today and she established very effective procedures for its printing and bulk mailing to our members. Under Patricia's stewardship, the front and rear covers evolved from black and white to the high quality colour images of migratory birds taken at the Sanctuary.

Patricia, all the best for a well deserved and healthy retirement!

BC Directors and Staff

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Manager's Report

October to December 2011 were very busy, with nearly 17,000 visitors. October's low numbers can probably be blamed on cooler temperatures and the rain falling on 24 days of that month. Similarly, December's good turnout was more due to sunny days in the early part of the month.

School bookings for the school program this fall were lower than in previous years, with only 18 school group visiting compared to 39 in the same period of last year. A Project Wild workshop held October 21st was well-attended by teachers, and we hope to host a similar workshop this spring.

As for Sanctuary maintenance, it seemed we were battling wind, rain, high tides and beavers all fall. The heaviest rainfalls coincided with days that Ducks Unlimited Canada brought in excavators and other equipment to replace our outlet pipe on the North Dyke. This repair required the lowering of water levels for machine access, excavating down into the dyke to replace the pipe, then filling it in again, all during incessant rain with high tides preventing drainage. The heavy machinery working on saturated trails also chewed up some of the trails.

This fall, Shanna Fredericks, our biologist, spent days installing wire mesh to protect our trees, as beavers were active all over the Sanctuary. The young birches and fruit trees seem particularly attractive as food, with the bark eaten and many smaller branches stored in our sloughs for the winter. One of these caches can be seen halfway between the tower and viewing platform. Violent winds November 11th and 24th also brought down many trees. Apologies to visitors for the trail closures, muddy conditions and disruptions due to equipment, trucks and staff later on fixing everything up. We have lots of firewood for the winter, though, and a new outlet pipe!

While this was all going on, migration was well underway. The excitement in the West Field this

year was due to the large flocks of Sandhill Cranes and the Peregrine Falcons hunting the hundreds of Long-billed Dowitchers. November's sub-zero days produced ice on most ponds marked the departure of most Dowitchers and most of the cranes, but our winter population of birds of prey has remained quite diverse.

Winter crane numbers stabilized at 9 birds by early December, and currently include our resident pair and colt, a visiting pair with two colts, and two adults. Throughout October and November, though, there was a lot of crane talk. The West Field had groupings of up to four crane families, two marked birds trying to make friends, and two groups of adults (one of 8, and one of 10 to 13 others). All of the non-wintering birds left once cold clear days of November began, even the local research bird with the satellite transmitter which is known to winter in Sacramento, California (J. Rourke, pers comm).

Several birds were brought out by wildlife rehabilitation centers this fall. A young Sandhill Crane from Courtenay was released October 27th in the hopes it would join migrant flocks. A Redhead and American Coot were delivered in November, and a Lesser Snow Goose in late December.

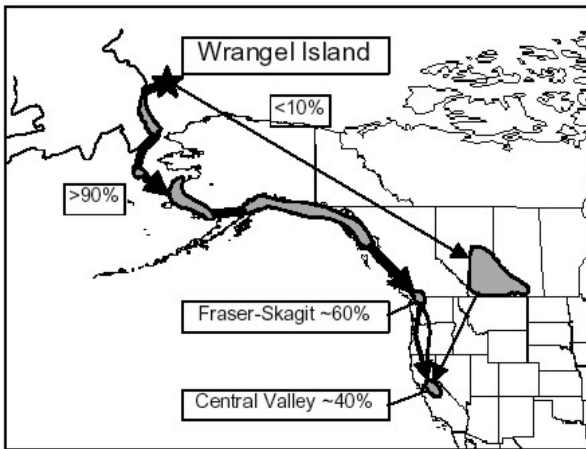
Waterbird and Great Blue Heron surveys are ongoing this winter in cooperation the Canadian Wildlife Service, and covering the Sanctuary and Alaksen National Wildlife Area habitats. More specifically, habitat use by Great Blue Herons are being monitored. The Great Blue Heron is considered to consist of 5 subspecies. The Pacific subspecies *Ardea herodias fannini* was officially designated a subspecies of "Special Concern" in 2010 and added to the Species At Risk Act (SARA), because of continued habitat threats. (See www.speciesatrisk.bc.ca for more information).



Photo: Mike Yip
Hemmera biologists Jay Rourke (left) and Charlie Palmer delivering a young crane.

Please do not hand feed the squirrels. A young visitor was recently bitten trying this. We do not want them tamed. A TETANUS shot is required if you are bitten.

January 2012 Lesser Snow Goose Update



Fall migration routes and wintering distribution of Wrangel Island Snow Geese (Pacific Flyway Council, 2006.)

On Wrangel Island, Russia, Lesser Snow Geese from two sub-populations nest together in mixed colonies. At the end of the summer, when young can fly, the majority of these geese migrate south to the Russian Arctic coastline, then to Alaska's Yukon-Kuskokwin Delta, then south down the Pacific coast to two separate wintering areas.

Our Lesser Snow Geese overwinter here in the Fraser River estuary and just south of the USA

border in the Skagit River estuary in Washington. They are often referred to as the "Fraser-Skagit flock". Other Wrangel Island Lesser Snow Geese winter in Central Valley, California, and pass through here during the fall peak of migration. Once in California, they mix with nearly a million other Lesser Snow Geese which breed in the Mackenzie River delta and on Banks Island in Canada's High Arctic.

In the Fraser Delta, the geese arrive from late September to mid-November and feed in farmland of Ladner and Westham Island, marshes offshore of the Sanctuary, fields of the adjacent Alaksen National Wildlife Area, and (since 2008) in Richmond fields. In the Skagit valley, they feed in similar farm habitats and marshes at Fir Island and in the Port Susan area, and often fly back and forth between the two estuaries.

Dr. Sean Boyd reports lots of young birds this year. The mid-winter count done December 22nd 2011 showed an increase from last year (65,000), with 70,000 geese this winter distributed between the Fraser and Skagit estuaries. In mid-winter, most of the Fraser-Skagit geese relocate to the Skagit River estuary. It was quite mild this winter, and at least 10,000 birds were still in the Fraser Delta into February. In spring, we see the whole population again as they move northward.

(Continued from page 4)

Snow Goose viewing this year was best in mid-October and again at the end of the month, when large feeding flocks were all around the Sanctuary and in the fields of Alaksen National Wildlife Area. An adult and a juvenile of the uncommon blue phase of this white goose species were seen in the flocks in late November.

As many wintering waterfowl use farm field habitats, our Society provides funding for the farm and wildlife programs through the Delta Farmland and Wildlife Trust (www.deltafarmland.ca). The programs result in winter forage such as Winter Wheat or Barley for wildlife such as Snow Geese, Trumpeter Swans, American Wigeon, and other waterfowl. The cover also improves soil and provides winter erosion protection for farming operations.

This year's Saw-Whet Owl counts have been disappointing, after last year's regular counts of 5 or 6 birds, but as you can see from the back cover, one

or two have been spotted over the winter.

The year 2012 is off to a good start. The spring is likely to be very busy, though, with most booking times already reserved from March to the end of May. Sanctuary maintenance in the next few months will be varied. Dave McClue has already finished painting the Lecture Hall hallways and washrooms, and we will be having a few work parties to resurface trails and shore up banks. The fall's outlet pipe replacement left the banks in need of revegetation, and we are starting our annual nest box maintenance program in preparation for the return of our cavity nesting birds.

Text: Kathleen Fry, R. P Bio
Sanctuary Manager

References:

Jay Rourke, Hemmera Environmental. pers. comm.
Pacific Flyway Council, 2006. Pacific Flyway Management Plan for the Lesser Snow Geese of Wrangel Island. White Goose Subcommittee Report.

Bird Highlights

Thanks to all our visitors who take the time to list their bird sightings in our Bird Sightings Logbook on the back deck of the Gift Shop. Over the past years we have kept all these entries and we rely on them when reflecting back on what birds first showed up when and where. Needless to say, these entries help me in producing the monthly synopsis in each quarterly issue of Marshnotes. Thank you.

October is a good month to see a variety of species migrating southward for the winter. We start to see Lesser Snow Geese build in number as they make their way south from Wrangel Island, Russia. The total count of species recorded for October was 96.

October 2 – October 8

On October 4th we had our highest count so far of Sandhill Cranes at the Sanctuary with 36 birds. According to Canadian Breeding Bird Survey results, over the past 40 years, Sandhill Crane numbers across Canada have increased by 12.5% (Bird Studies Canada, 2011).

On October 4th both the Ruby and Golden-crowned Kinglets were present. Both species of these small beautiful birds winter here in Southern B.C. in coniferous forests which provide both shelter from wind and a food source. They feed almost entirely on insects, hidden larvae in bark and spiders. They are olive-green and grey with white wing bars and are smaller than warblers. The Ruby-crowned Kinglet has a patch of vermillion on his crown (often hard to see) where the Golden-crowned Kinglet has the red patch along with an outer border of yellow with a dull white eye strip. Yellow-rumped Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Wilson's Warbler and Orange-crowned Warbler are all still in our area. Red-breasted Sapsucker, 21 Greater White-fronted Geese, Horned Grebe, Wilson's Snipe, Merlin and Turkey Vulture were other birds seen this week.

October 9 – October 15

October 9th 3 Ring-necked Ducks, 52 Greater White-fronted Geese and 7 species of sparrows were recorded. The bird feeders are popular spots to view sparrows and other seed-eating species. The first Northern Saw-whet Owl was reported on the 10th. Over the past 13 years, most first sightings of Saw-whet Owls were between September 25th and October 3rd. Two Belted Kingfishers were seen on the 11th. One could be seen fishing in the pond behind the Gift Shop.

A Letter to the Editor

It is Varri's voice I hear when I call the Sanctuary and more often than not, she gives me helpful tips of what to see and where to look for interesting birds. From the first time I came to Reifel, when the gate and the gift shop were located in what is now called the "warming hut", it seems to me that Varri has always been there. In fact, she started in March, 1985, having volunteered before that.

Her official job title is "Gift Shop Manager" so she manages the shop, merchandise and memberships, but I know she also keeps track of visitors, birds, and bookings, and is the main coordinator of the annual fundraising Pig and Corn Roast, the Sanctuary's annual calendar and many other projects.

Over the years, I have learned many fun facts about birds gleaned from short pieces Varri has contributed to Marshnotes. More recently, the regular section called Bird Highlights from the Sanctuary has truly taken off under Varri's wing (mixed bird metaphor?!) No longer is it solely a listing of what was seen when (which of course was always good reading in itself), but I find it now to be very creative and educational. I have learned lots of new details about birds in the Lower Mainland and at Reifel in particular from reading Varri's Bird Highlights.

Alice Cassidy

A sighting of one Ruddy Duck was reported on the 14th. A Pine Siskin was reported at one of the feeders. Siskins are slender heavily streaked birds with a slight forked tail. They have a touch of yellow on their wings and at base of tail. At feeders, Siskins like Niger Seed, Thistle Seed and Black-oil sunflower seeds. On the 15th 2 Hutton's Vireo were spotted along the east dyke. This week's bird list numbered 73 species.

October 16 – October 22

This week started off with a sighting of a Redhead (duck that is) and a Canvasback. A single Barn Swallow was also seen flying around the tower. This time of year is late to see Barn Swallows but we have had a handful right into December in previous years. From the tower with a spotting scope a Red-throated Loon and a Western Grebe were seen. The last report of a Brown-headed Cowbird was in this week as they have left our area heading to southern Mexico for the winter.

Mixed in with Canada Geese have been small numbers of Cackling Geese. These geese are a small version of Canada Geese with rounder heads and shorter neck and beak. This week, along with the Snow Geese that have been feeding in the field behind the picnic area, there were 3 other species of geese all in one binocular view; Greater White-fronted Geese, Canada Geese and Cackling Geese.

October 23 – October 29

On the 23rd we had a report of 1 Osprey and a female Eurasian Wigeon on the 24th. Trumpeter Swans returning from their breeding grounds in northern B.C. and Alaska were first seen this week. Their numbers increase through November and they will be in our area until approximately the end of March. You can spot them easily with their large white bodies and long necks. A Short-eared Owl was spotted flying out along the marsh. Other highlights for this week include Orange-crowned Warbler, Varied Thrush Rough-legged Hawk, Horned Grebe, Merlin, American Bittern, Pectoral Sandpiper and 19 Sandhill Cranes on the 29th.

November had a total of 98 species. Did you know the very first “Snow Goose Festival” the Sanctuary held was in this month in 1986? The last “Snow Goose Festival” was in 1996. Since then we have deemed November “Snow Goose Month” as the geese are at their peak then.

October 30 – November 5

We had 73 species recorded this week. On November 1st a Long-tailed Duck was seen in the sloughs. Records from 1997 onwards have included some Long-tailed Duck sightings mainly from November to February, but usually only seen from the tower quite far offshore, not in the sloughs of the Sanctuary. November 3rd a flock of 90 Greater White-fronted Geese flew over.

In this week we had 20 species of waterfowl (swans, geese, and ducks) and 9 species of birds of prey (hawks, falcons, owls and eagles), making it definitely a great time of the year for a variety of migratory birds. Virginia Rail, American Bittern, Hermit Thrush, Rough-legged Hawk and Cackling Geese were some of the other highlights for the week

November 6 – November 12

One Barred Owl was seen a few days this week. These large dark eyed owls are up to 20 inches tall and have a wing span of 4 feet. They prey on a variety of small rodents, rabbits, opossums, frogs, snakes and smaller birds (including small owls).

Barred Owls nest in cavities in old hawk or squirrel nests. Their biggest predator is the Great Horned Owl. On the 9th of November one Saw-whet Owl was spotted and I'm sure it is staying clear of the Barred Owl's territory.

November 13 – November 19

Species numbers jumped to 75 this week. Red-necked Grebe, Western Grebe, Surf Scoter and Herring Gull were all sighted from the tower with a spotting scope. Much to the delight of our visitors on the 19th there was great views of two Barred Owls seen along the trail between the tower and the viewing platform. The last report of an American Goldfinch for the Sanctuary was in this week as the majority of them migrate south to the USA for the winter. If you have Niger or thistle seeds in your yard feeders you may be lucky to attract a few in. They will look totally different as they are now in winter plumage. The male has only a hint of yellow now on its head and neck with no black cap. Their wing bars are still visible along with the black tail. On November 17th an Evening Grosbeak was reported near the tower.

November 20 – November 26

Three Ring-necked Ducks and a Ring-billed Gull were seen on the 20th. November 25th we had an unusual sighting of one Snowy Owl sitting in a coniferous tree on the center dyke. We expect them to be more in the open fields and coastal marshes with logs and mounds of grass tufts as perches. The Snowy Owl was only in the Sanctuary the one day. However we have since seen a couple flying very far off the foreshore. The visitors that were out that day were treated to some lovely views and photos. Not since winter 2006 have we had a big year for numbers of Snowy Owls showing up around Delta. The hot spot to see large numbers of them was down at Boundary Bay off Highway 10.

In this week we were fortunate to see 5 different species of owls. We also had an immature Northern Goshawk reported.

December is a good month to spot a big selection of birds of prey. The total number species recorded for this week was 98. Out of those 98 species 16 were birds of prey.

November 27 – December 3

A high count of 51 Bufflehead was recorded on the 27th by the Sunday morning birding group. They

..... /Continued page 8

also reported an immature Northern Goshawk, 3 Ring-necked Ducks, 7 Long-billed Dowitchers and an immature male Canvasback. On December 1st a Swamp Sparrow was located at the Southwest end of the West Field. The distinctively marked Swamp Sparrow is uncommon and hard to view as they generally are hidden in the thick marshes foraging for insects and seeds.

December 4 – December 10

More Cedar Waxwings were mixed in with the American Robins feeding on ripe Hawthorne berries. If you are lucky you might identify a Bohemian Waxwing with them. The Bohemian Waxwing is larger and has gray under parts instead of the buff coloring of the Cedar Waxwing. A group of Waxwings are called an “earful”. December 10th we had our first sighting for the winter of one Long-eared Owl. A record high count for these owls at the Sanctuary was back in December 1999 when 8 were seen. Black-bellied Plover, Dunlin, Purple Finch, Rough-legged Hawk, Common Redpoll and Pine Siskin were some other highlights for this week.



Photo: Kathleen Fry

A House Sparrow with white primaries and tail feathers has been confusing some birders near the front entrance.

December 11 – December 17

Up to 5 Black-crowned Night Herons are still roosting in their usual trees. We now have reports of 2 Pileated Woodpeckers around the Sanctuary. Their favourite food is the carpenter ant. They hammer on dead, rotten or fallen trees creating a large hole to gain access to the bugs. I wonder what that says about the majority of our Sanctuary trees. There was also a Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker and Northern Flicker spotted in this week. December 13th a Virginia Rail was seen in the House Pond behind the Gift Shop.

December 18 – December 24

Common Redpolls are still being reported in with the Pine Siskins. One Barred Owl is still roosting in the same area along the Center Dyke. 3 Greater White-fronted Geese are usually mixed in with the Canada Geese. Songbirds are plentiful at this time of year, especially around the feeders. December 23rd, the Long-Eared Owl was seen again briefly.

December 25 – December 31

This week had a total of 80 species recorded. December 27th the Swamp Sparrow was spotted again in much the same area as on the 1st. December 26th, 5 Pied-billed Grebes were seen. This is the smallest Grebe out of the five species. Coming into the Sanctuary and viewing into Robertson Slough you can generally pick out a few there at this time of year. This slough is also good for a variety of other species such as Green-wing Teal, Common Merganser, Hooded Merganser, American Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, American Coot, Mallard and the odd time a Bald Eagle sitting on a branch above the water watching for a meal.

Well, this ends the bird report for the Sanctuary for 2011. Our total count for birds seen at the Sanctuary for the year was 173. A new year starts along with a new sighting list.

Text: Varri Raffan, Gift Shop Manager

References

Bird Studies Canada. Species in Focus: Sandhill Cranes. Bird Watch Canada Fall 2011 No. 57.
Laura Erickson, 2009. The Bird Watching Answer Book, Cornell Lab of Ornithology.
W. Earl Godfrey, 1986. The Birds of Canada.
Boyd, S. 1993 Wrangel Island Snow Geese. Marshnotes Fall 1993
www.Whatbird.com

Notice to all Members

BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY

The Bylaws of the Society provide for the election of six (6) Directors by the Society membership in addition to the appointment of six (6) Directors from Stakeholder groups.

The six elected Directors each serve a two year term, with three to be elected as each Annual General Meeting.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held at

7:30 p.m. on Tuesday April 17th, 2012

in the Lecture Hall at

The George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary

5191 Robertson Road, Ladner British Columbia

The Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to advise the membership that three incumbent Directors

F. Wayne Diakow

James M. Morrison

Gerald S. Oyen

will be seeking re-election for a further term.

If you wish to nominate a candidate for election as a Director at the Annual General Meeting, please complete the nomination form which, in addition to the candidate's written consent, must include a written nomination by two Society members in good standing.

Nomination forms are available at the Sanctuary.

No member may nominate more than one candidate in any one year.

A family membership constitutes one vote at the meeting.

Please deliver the completed nomination form, by mail, fax or in person

by **4:00 p.m. Sunday, March 18th 2012** to

The Secretary, British Columbia Waterfowl Society,

5191 Roberston Road, Delta,

British Columbia V4K 3N2

Fax: 604 946 6982

If there are any further nominations received by the deadline, a list of all candidates will be posted at the Sanctuary.

A Special Thank You to HSBC Bank Canada

Late this fall, we received a grant of \$17,500 from HSBC Bank Canada to help make Sanctuary field trips feasible for schools with limited financial resources. HSBC has provided our Society with \$95,000 since 2006 for this special program.



The funding has been used to cover bus costs and programs for nearly 8,000 students including this year's classes. This program is greatly appreciated by students and teachers who otherwise may not have had an opportunity to visit and learn about waterfowl, wildlife and habitats.

2011 Ladner Christmas Bird Count Results

The Ladner Christmas Bird Count (CBC), held on Tuesday December 27 was very successful, with 140 species seen on count day. Notable species included Swamp Sparrow, Yellow-headed Blackbird and Common Redpoll. Additional species seen within the count period (3 days before and 3 days after the count) were Ruddy Duck, American Kestrel, Gyrfalcon and Horned Lark. These cannot be added to the count day tally. If they had been seen on count day, we would have again been Number 1 in Canada, but that honour goes to Victoria which recorded 142 species on their count day of December 16. BUT we are #2.

The Ladner CBC again recorded a 7 owl species day (Barn Owl, Great Horned Owl, Snowy Owl, Barred Owl, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl, and the Northern Saw-whet Owl.) The Point Roberts team did an excellent job of recording the Common Murres, Pigeon Guillemots, Marbled Murrelets and Ancient Murrelets, all of which are sometimes hard to get on count day.

The Westham Island Team which also covers the Reifel Bird Sanctuary and Alaksen National Wildlife Area, did a great job and submitted the team high for the day of 95 species. Thanks to Russell Cannings, team leader and Pablo Jost of Environment Canada for coordinating the teams that contributed to the good count.

Other interesting records for the day include a record high of 1265 Bald Eagles. Westham Island, Reifel Bird Sanctuary and CWS had a record 183 eagles, and 698 were tallied at the Vancouver Landfill, where they also recorded over 32,000 Glaucous-Winged Gulls plus one rare Glaucous Gull.

While the weather was cloudy and windy in the morning (and a very high tide of 16 feet on Boundary Bay), it continued windy and cold in the afternoon, with some rain. There were a total of 90 birders in the field and an additional 16 feeder watchers at home counting yard birds at feeders and everyone had a great day of birding.

Again this year, the media, including the Delta Optimist, South Delta/ Surrey Leader and Richmond Review provided great coverage. CBC Radio also ran a story prior to the count and followed up afterwards with the results. Global TV did an interview with me on count day on the Boundary Bay dyke at 72nd with the Snowy Owls and Short-eared Owls putting on a good show for the camera along with the visitors who came to see the many owls. I also did a short feature for Delta Cable that appeared on the Delta Magazine program the week of Jan 8th which was filmed at Reifel a few days after the count.

Special thanks to the BC Waterfowl Society for use of the Lecture Hall for the post count get together; and for the assistance of Kathleen, Varri, and Laura regarding logistics.

Text: Jude Grass, judegrass@shaw.ca
Ladner BC/Washington CBC Coordinator

The Volunteer Corner

Volunteers Wanted For:

- ◆ Hosting visitors along trails on busy weekends from March to June, and for work parties around the Sanctuary on specific dates over the spring months.

Please leave your name and contact information at the Sanctuary Office (604 946 6980).



Photo: Kathleen Fry
Staff Dave McClue (center) with Vancouver Canucks staff.

Special Thanks To:

- ◆ Our regular Sunday birding team of Mary Taitt and Brian Self, as well as Jim Martin, Istivan Orosi, Al Russell and Bob Wilmot for hosting visitors on busy weekends. Special thanks to Bill Topping for helping in the Museum Sunday mornings.
- ◆ The Vancouver Canucks volunteers for their help wiring trees (from beavers) and resurfacing our trails in October on their “Live to Give” Volunteer Day.
- ◆ Eric Rossici, Eileen Axford, Justin Malkonin, Karl Pollak and the students from Delta Secondary’s Provincial Resource Program for bagging seed and filling bird feeders.
- ◆ Our fall newsletter mailout team of Shurli Tylor, Jim and Jean Marsh, Laura Jordison, Jim Martin, Richard Beard and Patricia Banning-Lover.

Why be a Member?

As a Member, you receive the following benefits:

FREE admission to the George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary 365 days a year.

Quarterly issue of the BCWS publication “Marshnotes”.

A 10% discount on purchases in the Sanctuary Gift Shop.

Membership in one of British Columbia’s most respected conservation organizations.

With your support the British Columbia Waterfowl Society is able to:

Staff, maintain and expand facilities at the Sanctuary for the benefit of its visitors and members.

Provide interpretive and education programs, including guided tours for organized groups of all ages.

Contribute towards important scientific research on waterfowl to determine their life cycle need for survival.

Provide support for like-minded organizations who are working in waterfowl-related projects.

Enclosed is my cheque or VISA/Mastercard number for:

SINGLE Membership: **\$25**

FAMILY Membership: **\$50**

LIFE Membership: **\$500**

Donation (tax deductible)

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Name: (Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms.) _____

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Please mail to **British Columbia Waterfowl Society**
5191 Robertson Road, Delta BC V4K 3N2

Telephone: 604 946 6980 Fax: 604 946 6982

Website: www.reifelbirdsanctuary.com

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