

Island Wings

— to enjoy, learn about & preserve the diverse natural habitat of these islands & beyond

The Last Flight of the Scarlet Macaw

Submitted by Laura Bienen



PROGRAM: A Discussion of *The Last Flight of the Scarlet Macaw* with Bruce Barcott.

Vashon Maury Audubon and Books By the Way are excited to welcome Bruce Barcott for our upcoming program at 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 19, 2009. Barcott will discuss his award-winning book, *The Last Flight of the Scarlet Macaw: One Woman's Fight to Save the World's Most Beautiful Bird*, named one of the best books of 2008 by Library Journal. Barcott's book chronicles Sharon Matola's inspiring crusade to stop a multinational corporation in its tracks. Beloved as "the Zoo Lady" in her adopted land, Matola became one of Central America's greatest wildlife defenders. And when powerful outside forces conspired with the local government to build a dam that would flood the nesting ground of the last scarlet macaws in Belize, Matola was drawn into the fight of her life. Ferocious in her passion, she and her confederates—a ragtag army of courageous locals and eccentric expatriates—endure slander and reprisals and take the fight to the courtroom and the boardroom, from local

village streets to protests around the world.

As the dramatic story unfolds, Barcott addresses the realities of economic survival in Third World countries, explores the tension between environmental conservation and human development, and puts a human face on the battle over globalization. In this marvelous and spirited book, Barcott shows us how one unwavering woman risked her life to save the most beautiful bird in the world.

Barcott is an environmental journalist whose articles on humans and wildlife appear in *Outside Magazine*, *National Geographic*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and other publications.



Bruce Barcott

The program will be held at the Land Trust Building, 10014 SW Bank Road and will be immediately followed by a reception with Bruce at Books By the Way, 9928 SW Bank Road (just around the corner from Land Trust next to Café Luna.) The program is free and all are welcome. For more information contact Laura Bienen.

Earth Day Screening of "On The Wing"

Submitted by Laura Bienen

Wednesday, April 22, 2009 7:00 pm
at Land Trust Building, 10014 SW Bank Road

Vashon Audubon Chapter is offering a special FREE screening of "On The Wing" (www.swiftsmovie.com), a new documentary movie which tells the story of Portland, Oregon's Chapman School Swifts. Tens of thousands of Vaux's Swifts roost in the old brick chimney of this Portland elementary school for a couple of weeks each fall as they migrate further South for the winter. The Swifts put on an amazing nightly aerial display to the delight of hundreds of observers. Director Dan Viens writes, "The event has become a cult phenomenon over the past 15 years and is a shining example of people choosing to coexist with nature rather than smoking it out." Dan Viens will be in attendance and available for questions after the screening.

VOLUNTEER TODAY!

4th Grade Birding Program

Share your love of birds and develop the same love in children. Help them learn about local birds – no need to be an expert...you can learn with them! The program occurs on selected dates through March at Chautauqua Elementary and KVI Beach. Volunteer for two or more hours. Contact Kathryn True 567-5389.

McMurray sponsored Science Fair, April 18

Need morning and afternoon volunteers to help person the information and bird skin table. Contact Kathryn True 567-5389.

Volunteer Coordinator Needed for Vashon Audubon Chapter

The chapter needs someone to oversee our volunteer process. Someone to contact, record, solicit, train volunteers, and then link them to appropriate projects. *Are you the one?* Contact Sue Trevathan at 463-1484.



Calendar of Events

March/April 2009

The Enjoyment of Birds

Spring Migrants (Final class in series)
Wednesday, March 11, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Land Trust Building, 10014 SW Bank Rd.
Drop-in's welcome. \$10 for members,
\$15 for non-members. Contact Alan
Huggins at alanhugs@comcast.net.

Island Audubon Field Trip

Saturday, March 14, 8:00 - 10:00 am
(Monthly 2nd Saturday) Meet at Ober
Park & Ride. Bring binoculars/scopes if
you have them! Contact Alan Huggins at
alanhugs@comcast.net.

Vashon Audubon Program

Thursday, March 19, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Land Trust Building, 10014 SW Bank Rd.
Bruce Barcott discusses his book, **The
Last Flight of the Scarlet Macaw**. Free.
Contact Laura Bienen at 567-4613.

The Enjoyment of Bird Songs

Wednesday, April 1 & May 13,
7:00 - 9:00 pm
Land Trust Building, 10014 SW Bank Rd.
Two class sessions with field trips on
Saturday, April 4 & May 16. Cost \$30.
Contact Alan Huggins at
alanhugs@comcast.net. See www.
vashonaudubon.org for details.

VMIAS Board Meeting

Thursday, April 2, 7:00 pm
(1st Thursday every even-numbered month)
Confirmation, Sue Trevathan, 463-1484.

Island Audubon Field Trip

Saturday, April 11, 8:00 - 10:00 am
(Monthly 2nd Saturday) Meet at Ober
Park & Ride. Bring binoculars/scopes if
you have them! Contact Alan Huggins at
alanhugs@comcast.net.

Vashon Audubon Program

Wednesday, April 22, 7:00 pm
Land Trust Building, 10014 SW Bank Rd.
See the movie **On The Wing**. Free.
Contact Laura Bienen at 567-4613.

All Day Field Trip - Migrating Shorebirds (Bowerman Basin & Gray's Harbor Shorebird Festival)

Saturday, April 25. Contact Alan Huggins
at alanhugs@comcast.net. See www.
vashonaudubon.org for details.

Adopt-A-Road Cleanup

Sunday, April 26, 9:00 - 11:00 am
Vashon Hwy near Methodist Church on
the south edge of town. Celebrate John
J. Audubon's birthday by making the road-
sides more beautiful. King County
supplies vests and gloves; boots are a good
idea. Contact Anne Willingham if you plan
to attend at anneonvashon@comcast.net.

New on the Audubon Website

This March/April 2009 issue of *Island Wings* is the first of our new, "greener" bulletin format. This printed publication will be closely coordinated by Mary Ann McCarty (editor), Judith Pearce (graphic designer) and Richard Rogers (website manager), with Vashon Audubon's website (www.vashonaudubon.org) where you can find the complete articles noted in *Wings*. **Ed Swan's Notable Sightings** has moved to the website. As some local Audubon chapters are moving to a web-only version of their newsletters, we have chosen this new format which will cut down on paper use and production time. If you have any suggestions for improving future issues of *Wings* or if you wish to submit a story, photo or announcement to our website, we would love to hear from you! Contact Mary Ann McCarty at mannmcc@hotmail.com. Please consider helping with *Island Wings* by giving a few hours of your time every other month.

**For Results of the VASHON ISLAND
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT go to
www.vashonaudubon.org**

**For details on the
ENJOYMENT OF BIRD SONGS
course beginning April 1st, go to
www.vashonaudubon.org**



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