

Washington State Wenas Creek Audubon Campout
Hazel Wolf Wenas Bird Sanctuary/Boise Cascade Campground
45th Anniversary (1963-2009)
Memorial Day Weekend, May 22-25, 2009

Website: www.wenasaudubon.org

Hazel Wolf , 1898-2000. In 1966 Boise Cascade designated the Wenas campground area as a bird sanctuary. In her centennial year of 1998, the company joined Wenas campers in honoring Hazel Wolf--Wenas founder, extraordinary Audubon mentor and all-purpose environmental activist--by naming the campground area the **Hazel Wolf Wenas Bird Sanctuary**. Her spirit continues with us at this Memorial Day event.

Welcome to the Annual Wenas Audubon Campout

The purpose of the Wenas Campout is to provide Auduboners and their friends with a variety of natural history and recreation opportunities in a beautiful area that supports a fascinating assortment of spring flora and fauna and offers the spiritual fulfillment of simply being outdoors in the spring. **We do not charge fees for the Wenas outing itself.** Committee expenses are covered by voluntary contributions.

In 1963, Bea Buzzetti, Ruth Anderson and Hazel Wolf wandered serendipitously into this Wenas Creek area on a Memorial Day camping trip. They were so impressed with the variety of wildlife that they convinced Boise Cascade to make the campground available to Audubon campers on Memorial Day. This was the beginning of an annual, statewide (now regional) Audubon tradition that is the largest such event in the country.

The Wenas Committee is pleased that you have come. As soon as you set up camp, locate the **Larrison Tree**, a large pine near the creek. It is named in honor of the late Earl J. Larrison, a gifted and dedicated teacher, author, natural historian and conservationist who gave generously of his time and energy each year to make the Wenas Campout a memorable experience. The Larrison Tree is the headquarters and focal point for many Wenas activities. There you will find a sign-in sheet, bulletin board, programs, maps, bird lists and a wildflower display.

The Larrison Tree is also the meeting place for field trips. If you read about a trip that interests you, we encourage you to go along. Everyone is welcome. If you prefer to explore on your own or just stay in camp, feel free to do so. Evening campfire programs are held at the Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle in the meadow across the road from the Larrison Tree. The **Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle** was named for Hazel Wolf on the 30th anniversary (1993) of the Wenas Creek Campout in the year of Hazel's 95th birthday. The naming of the circle in her honor was in recognition of her many years of organizing the campout, her dedicated service in helping the event run smoothly and her bright and witty presence at campfire programs. Hazel realized her goal of living in three different centuries on New Year's Day. She passed away January 19, 2000.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. **BRING YOUR OWN WATER. Do not use creek water for drinking. It is unsafe.**
2. **Do not pick wildflowers and plants.** There is a flower display, at the Larrison Tree for all to enjoy.
3. **Please note - campfires are prohibited.**
4. **Keep your site clean** and take your trash out with you.
5. **Protect wildlife.** Respect nesting sites...especially birdhouses and nesting cavities.
6. **Do not let dogs roam free.** Keep them on a leash. It is not a good idea to take them on field trips.
7. **Respect your neighbors.** Do not play loud music at any time. No noisy activities, or generators after 10:00 PM.
8. **Please carpool.** Many areas have limited parking, so pool, save gas and cut down on dust.
9. **Please sign the register at the Larrison Tree**, but you need attend only those activities that interest you. Although we try to plan activities for everyone, you are free to schedule your own activities this weekend.
PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY!!

Wenas Trip Information 2009

Day	Time	Leader	Topic	Description
FRIDAY	7:30 PM	Wenas Committee	Evening Program (See next sheet)	Hazel Wolfe Campfire Circle
SATURDAY				
<i>SATURDAY</i>	5:30 AM	TBD	Early Bird Walk	Best birding (so early risers say). Return in time for later morning trips.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	Any Time	Richard Repp	Blue Bird Monitoring	Help check Bluebird houses. Good family activity. Instructions/census sheet at self-serve box at Tree.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	8:00 AM	Doris & Burt Johnson	Hardy Canyon Meadows	A must! Level walk in open meadows near cottonwood thicket. Back by lunch.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	8:30 AM	Bruce Jones	Hog Ranch Ridge	Easy to moderate walk from campground. Ascend a jeep trail to top of ridge.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	8:30 AM	Don Knoke	Manastash Flower Trip	Outstanding display of flowers & plants on open flats a short drive from camp.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	8:30 AM	TBD	Wenas Creek/Upstream Bird Trip	Tour upper campground, following creek upstream through riparian woods.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	1:00 PM	Don Knoke	Campground Flower Walk	Flowers everywhere. Can you name them? Know anything about them?
<i>SATURDAY</i>	1:00 PM	Rob Sandelin	Bug Out Program	Walk around camp, find the many insects that camp with us.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	2:00 PM	Carleen Zimmerman	Field sketching/nature journaling	Learn about field sketching, nature journaling with one of our Wenas campers.
<i>SATURDAY</i>	7:30 PM	Guest Speakers	Evening Program	Hazel Wolfe Campfire Circle. Learn about trips, hear announcements. See last page for speakers.

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SUNDAY				
<i>SUNDAY</i>	5:30 AM	Doris Johnson	Early Bird Walk	Best birding (so early risers say). Return in time for later morning trips.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	7:00 AM	Michael Hobbs	Big Burn Canyon	Explore this canyon on the hot side of the valley. New trip for our campout.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	8:00 AM	TBD	Downstream Trip	Walk downstream to bridge then loop back. Look for nesting birds.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	8:30 AM	Brett Wolfe	Black Canyon	Observe a plethora of east side birds, Chats, Lazuli Buntings, Oriols, etc. Bring lunch, water.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	8:30 AM	Don Knoke	Flower Walk up Dry Creek	Leisurely stroll. Up to 150 species of plants may be seen. Great for birds as well. Bring lunch.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	9:30 AM	Rich Repp	Hardy Canyon via the back door	Drive/walk for different look at Wenas Creek and shrub steppe. Back by 1 pm.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	10:00 AM	Rob Sandelin	Butterfly hike up Black Canyon	Other winged creatures share Wenas area with us. Can you name them?
<i>SUNDAY</i>	1:00 PM	Neil Zimmerman	Wenas Lake	Short drive/easy walk along inlet marsh to spot ducks, etc. Maybe Yellowheaded Blackbirds?
<i>SUNDAY</i>	2:00 PM	Carleen Zimmerman	Field sketching/nature journaling	Same as Saturday.
<i>SUNDAY</i>	7:30 PM	Guest Speakers	Evening Program	See last page.
MONDAY				
<i>MONDAY</i>	5:30 AM	TBD	Early Bird Walk	Same as Saturday.
<i>MONDAY</i>	8:00 AM	TBD	Hardy Canyon	Same as Saturday.
<i>MONDAY</i>	7:00 PM	Evening Program		Informal. Good time to unwind, laugh & share. Final treasure of the weekend.

Friday, May 22

7:30 PM :: EVENING PROGRAM @ Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle: Wenas Committee members meet with campers informally for announcements, trip descriptions and updates, answering questions, taking suggestions and talking to trip leaders.

ANNOUNCEMENT: We rent chemical toilets and must pay rental fees with donations from those who use these useful facilities. A "potty kitty" will be passed at campfire. Thanks for your generosity again this year.

Saturday, May 23

7:30 PM :: EVENING PROGRAM @ Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle:

Introductions, Announcements, Passing the hat, business meeting, - Doris Johnson, Recruitment - Rose Wakeman (Seattle Audubon)

- **Roll Call**, Helen Engle (Tahoma Audubon) & Introduction of Audubon WA staff & Steward
- **Species Tally & Sightings Report**, Wilson Cady (Vancouver Audubon).
- **Guest Speaker** – George Shelton, DNR Regional Manager & Jeanne Williams, DNR “ Status of Wenas Important Bird Area protection.”.
- **Bluebird Box Trail report**
- **Sing-a-along:** a Wenas Campout tradition. Carrie Kahle (Seattle Audubon) will lead group singing of action songs.
- **AFTER EVENING PROGRAMS**
- **BLACK LIGHT INSECT WATCH :: Leader—Rob Sandelin** (Pilchuck Audubon) – Join us near the camp center under the blacklight for an up close and personal adventure with the night fliers.
- **OWL PROWL [walk, stealthily]: Prowl Leaders—Neil Zimmerman ::** Possible species are Flammulated Owl, Western Screech Owl, Long-eared Owl, Great Horned Owl, Northern Saw-whet, Northern Pygmy Owl, as well as Common Poorwills. The trip involves **walking in the dark over uneven ground** and quiet listening. Dress warmly, wear very supportive shoes or hiking boots. Walk is done without flashlights, but bring one for emergency. Repeats Sunday.
- **Bat Walk :: Leader – Michelle Noe** At night, the birds give way to other creatures who fill the sky. With proper equipment, one can hear the bats before they can be seen. Join us for an exploration of the night time flyers. Mist netting of bats will take place, weather permitting.

Sunday, May 23

7:30 PM :: EVENING PROGRAM @ Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle:

- **Chapter Roll Call, Helen Engle**
- **Species Tally & Sightings Report**, Wilson Cady
- **Wenas Bats – Michelle Noe**, (Seattle Audubon) **Vice President of Bats Northwest.**
- **Sing-A-Long--A** Wenas Campout tradition.
- **BLACK LIGHT INSECT WATCH :: Rob Sandelin.** See Saturday Program
- **OWL PROWL [on foot, stealthily] ::Neil Zimmerman .** See Saturday Program.
- **BAT WALK :: Michelle Noe.** See Saturday Program

Monday, May 25

7:30 PM :: EVENING PROGRAM @ Hazel Wolf Campfire Circle: Informal program; this is a good time to unwind, laugh, share Wenas experiences and enjoy the last night. Bring ideas, stories, jokes (plus cookies, s'mores, etc.). This is the final treasure of the weekend!