



Wenatchee Naturalist's mission is to cultivate awareness, understanding, and stewardship of the Wenatchee River region by developing an active corps of well-informed community volunteers.



Dec. 2019

Celebrating Volunteers!

Wenatchee Naturalists gathered on Sunday afternoon Nov. 17, 2019, for our annual volunteer recognition social, graciously hosted by Wenatchee Valley College Continuing Education Department. To see a terrific variety of projects supported by talented Wenatchee Naturalists, view the [slideshow](#)!

This year, pins were awarded to 9 members of the **class of 2017**. Earning a 20+ Volunteer hour pin were **Corrine Bassett, Malerie Morgan, Denise Morun, and Nina Carlson**. Class members who earned their 50+ hour pin were: **Chelsea Evans, Jan Meredith-Evans, Marjie Lodwick, Barbara & James Brink, and Mabel Bodell**.



Pins were awarded to 9 members of the **class of 2018**. Earning a 20+ volunteer hour pin were **Martha Bean, Carole Ann Borshard, Kris Deyerle, Rachel Endelman, Carolyn Kinkade, Memory Visscher, and Darlene Schoenwald**. Two class members, **Betsy Dudash and Sherry Doolittle**, earned their 100+ volunteer hour pins just eleven months after course completion.

Our community has received so many gifts of service from these 18 individuals in 2019.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

■ Education

January Fridays 1pm or Saturdays 10am or 1pm If introducing people to the joys of being outside sounds worth your time, consider leading a snowshoe tour with Wenatchee River Institute at the Leavenworth Fish Hatchery! Volunteer guides lead groups of 10-12 people around a 1-mile snowshoe trail along Icicle Creek. We ask for 3 hours of your time to accommodate for setup and cleanup. Groups typically have 10-12 people and volunteers have the option of assisting another leader if they would prefer. Along the trail, guides point out interesting nature and ecology, based on their own areas of interest. There will be a snowshoe guide training at the Fish Hatchery on Thursday, (continued)



December 12th (potential weekend date TBD) that will cover both wildlife and ecology that you are likely to see along the trail, as well as logistics for guiding groups through the snow. The Fish Hatchery provides all equipment and gear, so even if you've never snowshoed before, you are more than welcome to join this fun program! All you need is an enthusiasm for sharing the wonders of nature and the outdoors with others.

Contact Katie Churchwell

AmeriCorps@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org

■ Education

December & January school days. Volunteers needed to assist WRI's [Traveling Naturalist](#), Naomi Liebhold. This exciting new program takes nature to 4th grade classrooms with high numbers of low-income and minority students across North Central WA. Dates include Dec. 3-6, 11, 13, 16-19 in Wenatchee, Chelan, Manson, Brewster, & Orondo. Hands-on and fun! Volunteers needed for Jan-May, 2020. Contact Naomi for details: 509-548-0181 ext. 6.

nliebhold@wenatcheeriverinstitute.org

■ Education

Dec. 7, 10am-2pm Christmas Family Fun Day at Wenatchee Valley Museum. Help children make pinecone and acorn crafts. Contact Debbie Sawyer - DSawyer@wvmcc.org

■ Education

January & February school days Help with **Ice Age Floods activities** for elementary students at Wenatchee Valley Museum. Contact Debbie Sawyer - DSawyer@wvmcc.org

■ Community Science Project

[3rd Wednesday monthly bird walks](#) with NCWAS Friends of Horan, 7:30am-10am, no RSVP needed; stay as long as fits your life.



Cooper's hawk in Susan's backyard

■ Community Science Project

Plan to join one of 6 regional [Christmas Bird Counts](#) between Dec. 17-Jan. 4 in Leavenworth, Bridgeport, Wenatchee, Twisp, Omak/Okanogan, or Chelan. All levels of birders and new-comers welcome. The 120th year!

December 17, Tuesday

LEAVENWORTH

Contact Joe Veverka at joe_veeverka@yahoo.com

December 21, Saturday

BRIDGEPORT

Contact Meredith Spencer

at merdave@homenetnw.net

December 28, Saturday

WENATCHEE

Contact Dan Stephens at dstephens@wvc.edu

December 29, Sunday

TWISP

Contact Julie Hovis at jahovis711@gmail.com

December 29, Sunday

OMAK/OKANOGAN

Contact Julia O'Conner at ilikebirds.joc@gmail.com

January 4, Saturday

CHELAN

Contact Steve Easley at seasley@nwi.net

■ Conservation Advocacy

Sign the [Public Lands Pledge](#), an initiative by the [Outdoor Alliance](#).

TALKS, PROGRAMS & FILMS:

Weds. Dec. 4 7:00-8:30pm Red Barn Event [Cascades Wolverine Project](#) at Wenatchee River Institute. By donation.

Dec. 6 First Friday Art Walk. Wenatchee Naturalist, **Betsy Dudash**, is featured at Mission Street Commons, 218 Mission St. Wenatchee. She is inspired by photographs she's taken and enjoys playing with colors and textures to reimagine the natural world.



Dry Gulch in Late Autumn, Acrylic, Betsy Dudash

Dec. 10 Tues. Erratics Chapter, Ice Age Floods Institute featuring Dr. John Buchanan, Emeritus Professor of Geology, EWU. His talk is *Above the Arctic Circle: Exploring Iceland, Greenland and Svalbard*. 7pm free at the Wenatchee Valley Museum.

FIELD GUIDES FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS WISH LIST:

[Wenatchee Area Field Guide](#) available at Wenatchee Valley Chamber of Commerce. Folding waterproof pocket guide.

[Natural History of the Pacific Northwest Mountains](#) by Daniel Mathews

[Wildlife of the Pacific Northwest: Tracking and Identifying Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, and Invertebrates](#) by David Moskowitz

[Trees and Shrubs of the Pacific Northwest](#) by Mark Turner and Ellen Kuhlmann

[Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest](#) by Mark Turner and Phyllis Gustafson

[Conifers of the Pacific Slope: A Field Guide to the Conifers of California, Oregon, and Washington](#) by Michael Edward Kauffmann.

[Pacific Northwest Insects](#) by Merrill A. Peterson

[Amphibians of Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia](#) by Charlotte Corkran and Chris Thoms. (release date of 2020)

Reptiles of Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia by Chris Thoms and Charlotte Corkran (release date TBD for 2020, for this new edition)

Traveling to Alaska soon? Mark Oswood recommends [Interior and Northern Alaska: A Natural History Guide](#) by Ronald L. Smith.

This Business of Being a Maple by Mark Oswood

Believe in the luck
of large numbers, an IPO
of winged embryos, one of them
almost certain to beat
the long odds against startups.

Negotiate a contract
with beasts and bugs and bacteria
for waste management,
picking up the week's CO₂, left at the curb
returning oxygen, with free, two-day delivery.

Reinvest sugary profits
in cellulose futures
building infrastructure, branching out
establishing a community foundation
for bird nests and tree houses.

Recycle seasonal inventory
with a spectacular fall markdown
on leaves (all sizes, red only) --
while supplies last --
a boon for dirt-poor consumers.

Pay dividends to stockholders
when shares rise,
as they do, every spring,
and profits can be tapped
with spigots and buckets.

Declare death but never bankruptcy,
assets remaining held in trust
for cavity-nesting birds,
wood -boring beetles,
and shelf-shaped fungi.

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