



The Raven is the monthly newsletter for Juneau Audubon Society

501 (C) (3) E IN 92- 0100446

P.O. Box 21725

Juneau, AK 99802

www.juneau-audubon-society.org

<https://www.facebook.com/Juneau-Audubon-Society-138280412980789>

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THE RAVEN

JUNEAU AUDUBON SOCIETY

VOLUME 47, ISSUE 5

MAY JUNE 2021

Join Us on May 8 for the 2021 Birdathon: Birding for a Cause!

Last May, we had a great time with our first annual JAS Birdathon! Over 50 birders around Southeast Alaska participated, tallying at least 130 species! Many thanks to those who made our first Birdathon a success and encouraged us to try it again.

We plan to have this event again, coinciding with eBird's **Global Big Day**.

We had to postpone (again) the Berners Bay wildlife cruises, so this will be our only big fundraiser this year. And, to help our community, we will donate half the proceeds to Southeast Alaska Food Bank.

How YOU can participate:

Go birding anywhere in Southeast Alaska on May 8

Birders at all skill levels are invited to participate.

AND/OR pledge to contribute either an amount per species seen in Southeast Alaska, or a set total amount. *Any donation is appreciated!*

Please visit the pledge sheet here: [Pledge Form Bird-a-thon 2021 \(google.com\)](#)

Have fun birding and/or checking out our local results.

How to Report your birds: Put your list on eBird. We will tally the species from there.

How to Donate- 3 easy ways

1) Via **Square Site** (secure link) [Click Here](#) (Print readers can find the link on our website; click on the "How You Can Help Juneau Audubon Society")

2) Via **PayPal**: Login to persona account and request funds to be sent to: **president@juneau-audubon-society.org**

3) **By Check**. Make out to Juneau Audubon Society and mail to: Birdathon 2021, Juneau Audubon Society P.O. Box 21725, Juneau, AK 99802-1725

To Find out More: Keep checking [JAS website](#) and [Facebook page](#) for updates.

Further questions, please email: info@juneau-audubon-society.org

Bird Flight Patterns and Music

A Gift to Our Juneau Audubon Membership

Dear Juneau Audubon Society,

We are excited to present Bird Flight Patterns and Music. Your organization is now able to access the online concert video and curriculum. The link and password below will bring you to the Bird Flight Patterns and Music webpage. On this page you will find the full concert video and online curriculum with activities, lessons, extra musical performances, composer interviews and educational games.

While adults will enjoy watching the concert video all the way through, we are recommending that teachers show the concert video in segments. For example, the students may watch the segment on the flap and glide flight pattern and listen to this motion imitated in the performance of Strauss' Acceleration Waltz. Following this segment the teacher can stop the video and lead the children on activities connected to the flap and glide flight pattern on the website.

The Bird Flight Patterns and Music webpage with concert video and online activities will remain active for at least one year. Therefore, you may visit and revisit at any time from now through June 2022!

I hope you will share your feedback regarding this program and responses from your chapter members and local schools. Kindly reply with an email back to me to confirm you received this message and the link and password are operational.

Thank you so much for your support,

Terry
twolkowicz@nbsymphony.org
Bird Flight Patterns and Music Link:
<https://nbsymphony.org/bird-flight-patterns-and-music-curriculum/>
Password: BFPMC *all capital letters in the password



JAS Tree Swallow Nest Box Project 2021

By Brenda Wright

Thanks to amazing volunteers, we are on track to put up our 61 tree swallow boxes in Juneau for 2021! Not only is spring being a little slow to arrive this year, in many places, the snow is not receding very quickly. We have had this swallow nest project in Juneau now for six years. With the help of many volunteers, we get our nest boxes up in several locations. Juneau Audubon is very happy to add our data to the state and national databases about insect eating birds. If you would like to be involved, we'd love your help to monitor the birds from nest box inspection to fledging. We have an excellent intern again this year, but more help is welcome. So glad to welcome spring this year.

Photos from Marsha Squires—husband Steve is a huge help in getting the boxes in place!



JAS Board of Directors

Gwen Baluss *President*
Marsha Squires *Vice President*
Patty Rose *Treasurer*
Amy Sherwin *Secretary*

Kim Ramos *Education*
Lizzie Solger *Membership*
Brenda Wright *Programs*
Debbie Hart *Newsletter*
Winston Smith *At-Large*

JOIN THE BOARD What a great opportunity !

We have **3 vacancies** at this time: Field Trips Coordinator, Conservation Chair, and At-large. **We really need help!** Please contact Gwen by email: president@juneau-audubon-society.org

Need to join or renew your JAS membership?

Joining or renewing membership with the National Audubon Society using an address in Southeast Alaska will include automatic JAS membership. <https://action.audubon.org/renew/membership>

OR for local-only JAS membership print or copy and mail in this page with at least \$10 check to Juneau Audubon Society for annual dues.

Name(s) _____

Mailing address _____

Email _____

(Please note if you can receive the Raven electronically – saves paper and funds!) Phone _____

Date _____ Amount enclosed _____

Notes:

Members receive a one year subscription to **The Raven**.

Receive too much mail from the National Audubon Society? Ask to be taken off the mass mailing list by emailing Customer Service audubon@emailcustomerservice.com (Opting out of extra mailings will not stop Audubon magazine subscription.)

JAS does not send members any offers, junk mail, or share our membership addresses with anyone.

Thanks for joining our team!



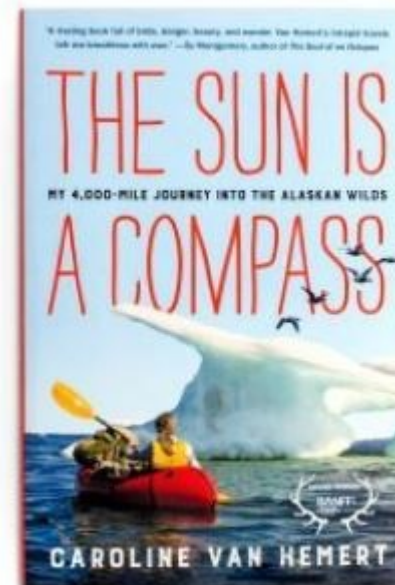
Book Review

The Sun Is a Compass:

A 4,000-Mile Journey into the Alaskan Wilds

By Kimberly Ramos

During the last year, the pandemic radically changed our lives. Instead of planning trips near and far, our focus has been on staying healthy and social distancing. Now that vaccines are becoming more widely available and there is a light at the end of the COVID tunnel, I am finally allowing myself to dream about going on adventures during the next year. If like me you have never felt more ready to explore, then Caroline Van Hemert's book *The Sun Is a Compass: A 4,000-Mile Journey into the Alaskan Wilds* is for you. In *The sun is a Compass*, Van Hemert tells the story of how her and her husband row, ski, hike, and packraft 4,000 miles from Bellingham to Kotzebue. Throughout the book Van Hemert, who just finished her PhD studying chickadee beak deformities, wrestles with some of life's biggest questions including if and when to start a family and picking the "right" career path. She recounts once in a lifetime wildlife encounters, a close call with an aggressive bear, the highs and lows of the journey, and wonderful tidbits about the birds she sees along the way. The pandemic has forced many people to stay indoors over the last year. It was easy to connect with this epic adventure that describes Alaska's many natural wonders, especially during a time when I have never felt more grateful to have easy access to the outdoors. Once I picked it up, I could not put it down. Whether you are a birder or simply someone who loves adventure tales, *The Sun is a Compass* has something for you.



2021 Juneau Audubon Society (JAS)

Spring/Summer Weekend Birding Continues!

Due to Covid-19, JAS annual field trips will not be in-person but instead modified to offer the weekend birder a location option and a listing of possible birds in the area (see details below). To assist you, the JAS Facebook page will be updated on Fridays to indicate what has recently been seen at the indicated site. You are encouraged to check on eBird to discover birds in other areas of Juneau as well as to post your own sightings.

Happy birding!!!

May 8	JAS Bird-a-thon Day and eBirds Global Big Day		Participate in both events by posting all the birds you see on this day to ebird.
May 15 and 16	Mouth of Mendenhall East of River (Wetlands Flats by airport)	Lo -.5 @ 1001 Hi 13.31 @ 1631	Pacific-golden Plover, Red Knot, Godwits, sandpipers, Horned Lark, Violet-green Swallow, American Pipit, Lapland Longspur
May 22 and 23	Mendenhall Forelands (Moose/Dredge Lake area)		Trumpeter and Tundra Swans, Ring-necked Duck, Sooty Grouse, Spotted Sandpiper, Arctic Tern, Northern Goshawk, Warbling Vireo

May 29 and 30	Treadwell Trail by Sandy Beach	Lo -3.53 @ 1004 Hi 15.44 @ 1645	Great-blue Heron, Hairy Woodpecker, Hammond's Flycatcher, Pacific Wren, Swainson's Thrush, Red Crossbill, Orange-crowned warbler, Yellow Warbler
June 5 and 6	Point Bridget State Park	Lo 3.34 @ 1650 Hi 12.37 @ 1058	Long-tailed Duck, Common Murre, Western Wood-Pewee, Alder Flycatcher, Bank Swallow, Brown Creeper, Common Yellowthroat

Please note the following:

1. Tides are indicated for Saturdays only.
2. Be especially aware of incoming high tides at Eagle Beach and by the mouth of the Mendenhall Wetlands. One can be easily caught stranded on high ground.
3. Bears are always a possibility at any time, any site.



Photo from Gwen Baluss, - a Hudsonian Godwit at the Eagle Beach State Recreational Area