

Connecting  
people with  
nature for  
40 years.

tahoma  
audubon  
society



# ANNUAL REPORT 2008

## 2008: A year of positive growth and change

Looking back at 2008 for Tahoma Audubon gives us an opportunity to see positive changes taking place and growth that prepares us for the future. Despite the gathering storm clouds in the economy, Tahoma Audubon is seeing as much activity as we ever have. Volunteer participation is up, and we are adding new staff and opportunities for us to fulfill our mission. The signs of growth and change are many:

- Six new members joined the board in March and brought new ideas and energy.
- Education Coordinator Stephanie Swaim joined our staff

in January of 2008. By the end of the year she had been chosen for TogetherGreen Fellowship Award by national Audubon.

- Graham Taylor joined our staff as an AmeriCorps Volunteer Coordinator.
- We reorganized the front office at the Adriana Hess Wetland Park to better accommodate the public, the growing volunteer ranks, and staff.

At our annual retreat in June of 2008, the board created a set of clear goals for the next five years. They include:

- Influence public policy issues which impact our mission. Conserve or restore important habitats and ecosystems through partnerships and the Important Bird Area campaign.
- Empower citizens to protect and preserve ecosystems and habitat in their communities and neighborhoods.
- Expand education programs throughout Pierce County with an emphasis on partnerships.
- Build our endowment to provide a long-term, self-sustaining base for the organization.
- Increase membership by fifty percent.

## The Year of the Citizen Scientist

Through Citizen Science we bring our education and our conservation work together with our field trip leaders to better focus our energies. By doing so we can ensure that we are using limited resources to have the greatest impact on habitat protection.

Citizen Science involves volunteers collecting species data in a consistent, valid manner that can be used by researchers to analyze what is happening to birds and their habitats. NatureMapping is an easy-to-learn methodology for collecting field observations. The Christmas Bird Count and Great Backyard Bird Count are two Citizen Science activities that we have been running for years, and in 2008 we added:

- Seabird Survey – A shore based survey that captures the densities of our wintering ducks, geese, loons, grebes, gulls and alcids. Trained volunteers survey from predetermined locations on the first Saturday of the month from October to April. Our collaboration with the Seattle Audubon was supported by the Forest Foundation and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- A wildlife survey of Ohop Creek using NatureMapping to get a census before a very exciting restoration project begins. Once completed the project will restore many of the natural features to Ohop Creek and we will perform further NatureMapping studies to see what effect the restoration has had on species health.
- Project FeederWatch, a program anyone can do from home to count bird species on a regular basis and record what they see on eBird, an online database for citizen science research.
- Beginning the long process of entering our historical field trip data into eBird and NatureMapping. This will allow scientist from around the world to use the data we have been collecting on our Field trips for over 30 years.

## Field Trips and Adult Education

At the core of Audubon is the drive to observe birds in their natural environment. Any week of the year you will find Tahoma Audubon volunteers leading **field trips** or **adult birding classes** for a growing number of bird watchers throughout Puget Sound and the State, as well as trips for young people.

There are numerous and varied offerings every month, from Point Defiance to the Skagit Valley, from the western shores to the prairies of Eastern Washington and many places in between. Participants young and old enjoy and learn in the company of like-minded folks. We led 66 field trips and nature walks in 2008: an average of five per month. We could not do it without our field trip leaders who are teachers, ambassadors, captains of car caravans and tireless searchers for the next big sighting.

In the fall of 2008 we expanded our adult birding classes, offering two beginning classes and one intermediate. Rolan Nelson joined Marcus Roening in offering sold out beginning classes, and folks were elbow to elbow in Ken Brown's intermediate class, known for its wonderful field trips. Increased interest in our adult birding classes follows increased interest in bird watching throughout the community.



### Mission Statement

Tahoma Audubon Society's Mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and earth's biological diversity.

Our slogan is "Connecting people with nature."

### Internships Benefit Tahoma Audubon Students too

Tahoma Audubon was blessed in 2008 with a variety of talented and energetic interns. They include Candi Ziegert and Claire-Marie Krug, Citizen Science interns from Pacific Lutheran University; Natalie Fish, Global Warming Intern from the University of Puget Sound; Nicolette Todd, Green Tacoma Partnership intern from the University of Washington; Andrew Larson has been invaluable in assisting us in entering our historical field trip data into eBird; Vaughn Hilliard, habitat maintenance intern from Clover Park Technical College. Jess Stewart from UWT and Meagan Van Horn, from UPS helped to lead and expand the Osprey Club in paid internships.

### Birdathon Breaks More Records

Each year our Birdathon fundraiser seems to keep breaking records. In 2008 we raised over \$47,000 to support our work to protect and preserve habitat thanks to all the volunteers and the thousands of donors. We hosted 17 Birdathon field trips and had our first ever Kickoff event, at Owns Beach. Thank you to everyone who participates in Birdathon, the grassroots support is what makes our work possible.

### Green Tacoma Partnership Takes Off

Along with our partners at the Cascade Land Conservancy we began building the next phase of the Green Tacoma Partnership. The Green Tacoma Partnership is a public-private partnership working to sustain a viable healthy network of natural spaces throughout Tacoma. Thanks to the support of Congressman Norm Dicks, we will be recruiting and training 20 habitat stewards to restore seven urban habitats. With the City of Tacoma adopting an open space plan that sets priority green spaces in the city, we are well on our way to making the urban green spaces of Tacoma viable for generations to come.

### Planned Giving Makes a Difference

Thanks to the dedication and support of Donna Cooper Pepos (1935 - 2008), Tahoma Audubon Society has received its largest financial gift to date. Donna passed away peacefully August 6, 2008. It was Donna's idea for her granddaughter to build the nature trail at the Adriana Hess Audubon Center for the granddaughter's Gig Harbor High School project. The Board of Tahoma Audubon has decided to name the trail built by her granddaughter the Donna Cooper Pepos Trail. Her generous gift will ensure that Tahoma Audubon will continue to focus on its mission of protecting habitat and the environment.

### Volunteer Days at Morse Wildlife Preserve

Students from Rocky Ridge Elementary School and the surrounding community are participating in a series of **TogetherGreen** Volunteer Days at Morse Wildlife Preserve. One of 240 events taking place in 40 cities across the country, **TogetherGreen** is a new Audubon conservation initiative made possible by funding from Toyota. The Morse Wildlife preserve is co-managed with the Cascade Land Conservancy and the Morse Force to provide educational opportunities for the surrounding community. The Morse Force is embarking on a capital campaign to build a board walk to make more of the unique habitat accessible to visiting education groups.

<b>\$100,000+</b> Donna Cooper Pepos	James & Ruthann Dr. McCaffree McMurry Swift Inc Mary Pat Minor Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society	Jo Ann M Jones Dr. Michael Jones Dorothy Jordan Mary & James Kenney Kirk Kirkland Byrna Klavano Chuck Kleeberg Marcelle Kobel Kathryn Joyce Kravitz- Smith Judith A Krill Mr. Russ Ladley David Lane Liz & Bob Lathrop Kathleen Ann LeGraud Birgit Leneweaver Mr. Karl Albert K Alm Ms. Julie Anderson Mariella & Bob Arnold Walt & Marlene Arthur Douglas Askerman Jim Baldes David Ballash Terry Barnett Joann Baroh Ernest & Vera Bay Rosanne Becker Lea Beverley Bill & Allison Smith David & Sandra Boe Boeing Co. Employee's Community Fund Sylvia J Boomer Joyce L Bramsche Mark & Barbara Brandewie Jerry Broadus John & Joan Broughton Shawn Brown Betty Bruce Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation David Carino Mark D Carlson, DDS Kristi Ceder Charles Wright Academy Givin & Nancy Chase Joanna Chesnut Carlyle W Clark June M Coloff Donna Cooper Pepos Steve & Renee Copeland Dorolyn Crandall Pam Mc Gee and Dale Leggett Ruth H Daugherty Nancy E Daugherty Ms. Nancy Davis Rhona F Diehl Heidi Engle Helen Engle Gretchen Engle Melisa D Evangelos Mr. Jake Fey Financial Insights Rep. Dennis Flannigan Adele Marie Jones Freeland Thomas V Galdabini Art & Mary Sue Gee Jean Gillmer Al Gray Luanne R Green Cheryl Greengrove Barbara Guller Ronald & Marion A Hale Ursula Hall Wade Hands & Faye McAdams Hands Mr. Dean Hanks Margaret K Ellis E.C. Harris Norman Heimgartner Ms. Lara Herrmann George H Hess Paul & Ruth Anne Hickey Patricia Hurlbut Jayne A Hurlbut Roger & Rita Indrebo Joanne & Nichol Iverson Anne & Paul Jacobson Nancy & Bertil Johnson	Sue E Summers Ms. Lorna Sutton Mr. Daniel Taylor Beatrice Thompson Thompson Smith Consulting Group, Inc Dr. & Mrs. Fred L Tobiason Sheri Tonn Michael & Jodi Walker Steve Wamback Arthur Wang Colleen Waterhouse Bev/Jerry Webber Katrina A. Weihs Dennis White Leone Whitehall Helen Whitney Peter Wimberger, PhD Joel & Lucinda Wingard Nancy E Wittenburg Luella Wong Margaret Wuersten Steven & Susan Garrett Ruth Gentili Lorri Gilmur-Dillman Ms. Karen Goetting Mr. Calvin Goings Bill And Dorine Golding Rachel E Goon Martin And Karen Graham Ken Grassi John Guadnola Mr. James Guerrero Margaret Haines Kelly L Hale Steve Hallstrom James Halmo Martha Hanson Harbor Financial Services NW, LLC Danielle Harrington Joanne L Hart Toralv And Marilyn Haugen Mr. Chuck Hellar Connie Hellyer Kathy Hemion Gail K Hemphill Ivar Highberg Gloria Ho Mr. John Houck P J Huber Susan Huck Norene Huff Claire F Hull Robert Husted Otis D Hyde Frank H Jacobs Tricia Jensen Kathryn Johansen Dr. Burton L Johnson Howard & Doreen Johnson Michelle Jones Colleen Justo Anna Lisa Kanick Ernest L Karlstrom John and Emily Kerrigan Sherrie Kilborn Soosan Kirbawy Debbie Klosowski Karla Kluge Phyllis M Knopp Clyde & Mary Etta Kostelecky Margaret Kraft Veronica & David Kulman Robert & Barbara Kvamme Krystal L. Kyer Bruce LaBar Lakewood Rotary Partners John & Pat Lantz Bonnie Latham Mariam Lauren Howard & Suzanne Leichman Stephanie R Leisle Robert & Joan Levitin Katie Lichtenwalter Michael Ligrano Mr. Roger Lilley Jean O Loomis	Helena Dillon Verdelle Low Heather Mack Penelope Magelssen Marilyn Mahoney Mr. Spiro Manthou Heather Ballash Marcus Roening Jim & Judy Margrath-Huge Faye Mc Adams Hands Scott Schaub Pat McCarthy Denise McCluskey Jean McCord Eugene R. McEdward Margaret McEntee Doreen A McGill John H Mcgilliard Joseph T McGuire Alberta McGuire Barbara N Mead Ryan Mello Pamela C Meyhew Sharon J Michael Ruth Ann Mikels Ms. Julie Milasich Norma J Millen Nora K Miller Jean Milton Cynthia M Mish Dr. Richard D Moe Zoeb Mogri Bob Monaghan Elijah & Sarah Moon Mr. Ian Morrison Donald & Helen Murphy Ms. Shannon Murphy Richard Myking Bob Myrick Dane Meyer & Nancy Hausauer Jim & Carolyn Nelson Carol O'Brien, DDS Leif Oksenvaag Shirley Oliver John F O'Loughlin Leslie & Cindy Becker Janice L Olson Kathleen M Olson Patricia J. Olson Linda N Olson Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Omero Carolyn P Orwiler Robert Ory Ms. Elaine Ott Claudia Page Ms. Julie Parascondola Shelley Parker Patrick Townsend & Associates Nancy Pawlicki Julia A Payne J. Norris Pearson Earl Perdue Robert & Linda Petersen Laurel J Peterson Lori J Peterson Ms. Clare Petrich Fran Phillips Dale & Patience Powell Kenneth A Query Joseph & Kris Quinn James Ramsdall Robert R Annon Anonymous Nora L Arnold Mary J Athey Kathleen & Patrick Ayers Randall Babich Connie Reitzug Toby Rickman Martha E Robbins Helen & Ronald Robinson Virginia Robinson Charles B Roe, JR Monica Roller Janet D Roller Mr. Rick Rose Ms. Katie Rose Janet Runbeck Mr. Don Russell	Dian G Lord Edward & Barbara Sahlin Marie H Saitta Ed Sakai Ken Luthy, Sara Siemens- Luthy Jan Saxton Mr. Steve Schain Scott and Liz Schaub Judith Schuler Paul & Donna Schultz David Scott Karen Seinfeld Dr & Mrs Buell Sever Scott Schaub Mary Siegenthaler Brian Simpson, D.D.S. Tom Sims J Singh Daniel E Small Ms. Diana Smith Jann Sonntag Robert Sotak John R Spehar Morris & Mary Stafford Gloria & Bruce Steel Ruth Stevick Bonnie Stiff Mr. Joe Stortini Ms. Katherine J Sutoalo Stephanie L Swaim Richard & Linda Swift Ms. Hayes Swinney Joan Thomas Carol Thomas Ms. Ian Morrison Theresa Bunten Jennifer Burkland Ms. Elizabeth Butler Annette Calder Kathleen Callahan Ed L Callaway Howard Campbell Rene Canzler Betty J Cappa Jane Carden MS Michele Cardinaux Joyce Carlson-Baker Mr. Gary Carvalho Ed & Gloria Chaffee Ms. Judy Chalich Bonnie Chandler-Warren William J Charette Don and Pat Clifford Carol Clingan Katharine Coghill Margaret C Cole Jim Colson Annie & Colin Conant Sarah C Connelly Rep. Steven Conway Nancy K Cook Ms. Clare Cooper Kjellaug Cosgrove Ms. Rachael Costner Doreen M Covich Shandra Cox Heidi Crawford Michele Crayton Patty Crockell Kevin & Carol Curtin Jenny Curtiss Jim D, Jr. Pamela Darland Ann Darling Jane O Davison Connie Decker Betty Decker Marcella Decker Kazumi Divens-Cogez Dorothy S Docken Diana Dodd Michael B Dollinger Susan K Donaldson Kathleen Donehower Jeanette & Bill Dornier	Dinahfinella B Bell Leo G Bellarts Rebecca Bellew Juanita M Bennett Frances M Bentley John Bergvall Jennifer & Paul Berlin John Berry Mr. Dave Berry Steven G Biddle Frances Blair Sara W Blakeslee Marian Blanchard Frances E Blewer Karen & Stan Bloustine Noel Blyler Elizabeth H Bodine Joan Bogensberger Gail & Randolph Bohannon Al Bolinger Ms. Cathleen Bostwick Mary Ann Boulanger John F/Lorraine Boyle Ron Bramsche Kathryn Erickson Jarvis Landon & Marji Brazier Mary Joy Breton Edith M Brewer Charles & Gail Bronson Michael & Gillian Brook Michael Brown Richard P Brown MS Kathy Brown Mr. Ian Morrison Theresa Bunten Jennifer Burkland Ms. Elizabeth Butler Annette Calder Kathleen Callahan Ed L Callaway Howard Campbell Rene Canzler Betty J Cappa Jane Carden MS Michele Cardinaux Joyce Carlson-Baker Mr. Gary Carvalho Ed & Gloria Chaffee Ms. Judy Chalich Bonnie Chandler-Warren William J Charette Don and Pat Clifford Carol Clingan Katharine Coghill Margaret C Cole Jim Colson Annie & Colin Conant Sarah C Connelly Rep. Steven Conway Nancy K Cook Ms. Clare Cooper Kjellaug Cosgrove Ms. Rachael Costner Doreen M Covich Shandra Cox Heidi Crawford Michele Crayton Patty Crockell Kevin & Carol Curtin Jenny Curtiss Jim D, Jr. Pamela Darland Ann Darling Jane O Davison Connie Decker Betty Decker Marcella Decker Kazumi Divens-Cogez Dorothy S Docken Diana Dodd Michael B Dollinger Susan K Donaldson Kathleen Donehower Jeanette & Bill Dornier	Diane S Doss Bob & Sue Drury Nancy Brennan Dubbs Patsy R Dunnington Mary Ann Durand Ronald Dyson Kathryn Ann Easton Jim & Catherine Ebbert Danielle Edmonds Valerie Edwards Donna & Steve Egge Martha Egly Joyce & Colin Ehli Naomi J Elam Sheri & Bill Elford Kathryn Elling Gloria Ellis Luana Ellis Luana C Ellis Gerry & Susan Elston Holly Endersby Robin Engle Melanie Engle George Engle Gina & Aaron Engle Kathryn Erickson Jarvis Grace Eubanks Nina Everett Frank Fahland Willena Ferguson Dr. & Mrs. R M Ferguson Pam & Robert Ferris Eleanor Ficca Warren N Finch Mary Jean Finnegan Claudia Finseth Judith Finstuen Mary L Fleming Donna Fleming Lee Fleming Joanne Flom Marilyn Forbes Erika Ford Miichael & Marjorie Forseth Elizabeth Fortenbery Mary Beth Jean C Francis Rosa Franklin Cari Franz-west Nancy Fraser Philip Frazer Richard Frederick Jean Funk Henry M Gabel Jack H Gakstatter Connie Gale Joanne L Gallasch Donald E Garwood Amy Geer Laura Giddings Georgine Gillispie Georgine Gillispie Jo Ann Gilsdorf Linda J Glein Gretchen B Glew Margaret Glover Rylla Goldberg Nancy Goodwin Elin Gratton Charles Griffin Ruth Gruenstein Milton J Guhr Carol Gulczynski Paul V Haak Laura Haas Karen Haas Sue Habeck Jane Hahn Mrs. William W Haire Julie and Jonathan Hale Marvin & Shirley Halverson Catherine R Hamel Fern Hansen Jim Harbor Kris Harkness Caroline Harris Robert F Harrison Karyn Hart Martin Hauptman	George & Vineta Hausauer Steve Hayoski Daniel & Yumi Heath Linda Heaton Nancy Hellyer Edward M Henderson, Jr Lara Henriksen John O Herzog Jody Hess Valerie Higgins Michael & Barbara Hill Sally V Hill Kathryn Smith Hillig Richard Hines Bob Hitchcock Peter Hodum, PhD Christine Hoizat Mr. Scott Hooton Lon A Hoover Nancy Hori G Hosford Laurence Huestis Doris Hughes David Hull Ms. Millicent Hunsperger Patrick J Hurlley Nancy Iams Judy Irwin Summers Roxanne & Bill Jacobs Barbara Jacobson Jean H Jacobson Teri Jelinek Karen & Larry Jerdal Ann E Johnson Howard & Shirley Johnson Tracey Johnson Steven Johnson Paul Johnson Lynn & Elizabeth Johnston Betty L Jones Anne and Kevin Jones W F Jowders James J Julich Beth Jurgensen Alvin G Kageler Brian Kapusta John Kearney & Suzy Meyer Bill & Judy Kelly Theresa Keldo George & Mary Kenny Diane Kerlin James Kilborn Marty Kilsgaard Barbara Kleiner Dagmar Quevli Knight Sarah & Josh Knight Merlyn D Knudson Karen Konrad Deborah Kotas Patricia Krick Mardi Krusemark Jean E Kyle Walter Lachnit Jane Lackergue Thelma & Leslie Laird Cathy Lampson Judith Lange Beverly Langford John Lavin Susan & Lawrence Lee Gil LeFrancois Charlyn Leitch Kimberlie Lelli Aviva Lemberger Robert & Rosemary Lenigan Ann & Jim Leslie Judy Lewis Marion Leyrer Charlie Lietch Alison M Lilley Gusta J Linebarger Mr. Mike Lonergan Neva Losh Jackie Lownie Ellen Lowrie Paul Lucas Mrs. Joyce M Lundberg Ellen B Mabie Travis MaClean	Mary Madden Faulene K Main John Main William W Mangione Joann Mann Mary Manning Judith A Manza Mr. Henry Maros Bill & Jennifer Marratt Elaine Marshall Michael & Barbara Hill Tom Martin Bill Martyn Jeanette S Matthews Nancy Maulding John W Maxwell Robert E McBride, D.P.M Sue & Brian McCluskey Shelby L McCulloch Nancy McCune Marjorie McGlenn John W McInnes Ms. Laine McLaughlin Agnes & Jack McIn Janet E Medcalf Marie & Roosevelt Mercer Ruth Meshriy Keith Messer Dr. Paula Meyer Thomas O Meyer Mae Lynn Mickelson Barbara & Rod Miller Joyce & John Miller Loyd Miller Bonnie & Edwin Miller Georgianna Miller Katherine Miller William & Susan Mitchell D & Colleen Molenaar Dolly Monaghan Sean Monaghan Patricia Moore Joseph Morris Virginia & Don L Morris Steve & Carol Morrison Diane Munson Kay A Murland Virginia Murphy William M Muse Ms. Charlotte Myhre Martha Nabs Naomi Natiello Mr. Brad Nelson Martin Nelson Mike Nelson Katherine Nelson Martin & Mary E Nelson Sally Nesheim Daphne M Nolte Anne Norman Claire D Norris Eleanor & Jerry Nugent Sean O'Donnell Robert O'Donnell Ken Slavich Harold P Smelt Ray- Dee Olson David & Arvis Olson John R. & Suzanne A. Orr Janice & Uriah Orr Diane Overby David M Pair James A. Palmer Briann Sonntag Surplus Fund Ramona Soule GEORGE SOVIE Elayne Spangler Brigid Spellman Liane Sperlich Rebecca L Sproat Audrey G Stacy Elaine Stafford Patrick A Steel Robert & Peggy Steiner Adele Stevens Clara Steward David Stipek Ms. Marilyn Strickland Barbara R Sullivan Ruth Sullivan Beckie Summers	Mr. Kerry Phibbs Annette Pinkerton Wesley L Pollock Michele Potter Darrell Powell Martha Powell Leo & Shirley Powers Linda Tatlock Fredric & Marilyn Tausend Audra Taylor Bonnie Taylor Barbara C Taylor Della R Taylor J W Terlouw Dale C Thompson Dr. John & Yolanda Thompson Charles Thompson Kris & Shep Thorp Paula Thrall Irene Von Tobel Lynn & Jon Torgerson Daniel Tompkins Winnie Trippel Tim Trohimovich Louise Troll Tony & Barbara Trotter Bunny Tuell Gerard Urling Ilene Urschel Colleen S Van Arsdall Richard D Van Deman Randy Van Nortwick Dick Vandenberg Edna Vandenheuval Claudia & James Vercellen Marian M Vimont Carla Vincent Lynn & Tom Vorys Louise M Wackerle Jon & Kay Wagner Laurissa Patricia Wallace Anne Wallerich Lewis Wallon George Walter Ruth Waltman Robert Warfield Carl & Debra Warmington Bonnie & Chandler Warren Greg & Kathy Waters Tana Watson Gail Watters Kelly & Cliff Webster Dennis Weeks Mar-Le Wendt Nancy Jean White Elmira White Esther M Whitely Suzanne M Whittham Barbara Wightman Barbara K Williams Rosalie Williamson Janet Willis Elizabeth Willis Jake Wimmer Gerhild Old Anne T Wood Phyllis W Wood Mr & Mrs W C Woodard Carol Wade Woodman Kenneth Woolery Douglas & Lea Worth Michael & Frances Wotton Linda Zehnder Jane E Zetterberg Mr & Mrs A B Zimmerschied Mr. David C A Zink Yvonne Zubalik
---	---	---	--	---	---	--	---	---	---	--

This list reflects total contributions of \$20 or more made during 2008. Every attempt has been made to recognize donors and provide accurate information. If there is an omission or correction please call Bryan Flint at (253) 955-9129.

# Educating Future Conservationists

Our education programming is a centerpiece of Tahoma Audubon's success. By connecting people with nature in small, structured educational events we allow people to experience the wonders of nature on a deeply personal level.

Through partnerships with the Tacoma Nature Center, The Adriana Hess Park Committee, Morse Wildlife Preserve Task Force, local museums, and universities we can use our limited resources to reach more people. In doing so, in 2008 we accomplished:

- ◆ Offering 237 programs through which we reached 6,245 individuals. We also enlisted volunteers, which resulted in 1,159 volunteer hours donated to the Tahoma Audubon education programming; translating into \$22,612.00 worth of service from our volunteers this year.

- ◆ Offering 13% more programs in 2008 than we did in 2007.

- ◆ Increasing **attendance for youth by 18%** from 2007.

Full enrollment in summer camps, nature education programs, and home-school classes have height-



ened children's awareness of nature and how their personal actions can contribute to conservation and stewardship. Parents tell us that their children share that knowledge with the rest of their families. In addition, we expect that many of these children will continue to love nature and be involved in environmental causes in the future.

**Osprey Club**, a successful after-school program for children ages 11 to 16, has brought the love of nature to a new and more diverse population. In 2008 we offered four new clubs in the Tacoma School District, resulting in a quadruple increase in our Osprey Club attendance. Two thirds of the students indicate they are of minority status. Most were from areas of the city with a lower economic status and high incidences of gang-related violence, which makes our program one that is actively working to give youth a place to recreate safely during the vulnerable after-school/before dinner hours. The osprey Club has been supported by grants from the Hayes Family Fund and the Sue D. Nilsson Endowment Fund at The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation



and the Puyallup/Chamber-clover Small Grants Program.

Two programs laid the groundwork for an expanded network of education volunteers and citizen scientists: volunteer training for **Flying WILD**, an educator training course that teaches science and ecology through the lens of bird studies, and **Nature Mapping**, a program designed to teach people without much science background how to collect accurate and valuable wildlife and habitat data.

**School outreach** programs bring our habitat-focused curriculum to classrooms, day cares and camps across Pierce County and are so popular that we often have to turn groups away.

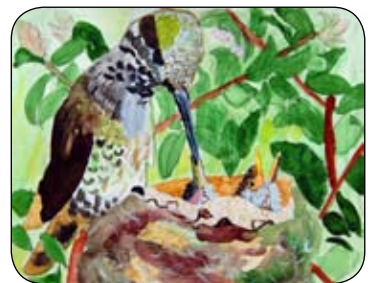
# Significant Victories in Habitat Protection

Our major success stories for habitat conservation in 2008:

- ✓ The Tacoma City Council unanimously enacted shoreline buffers to protect Puget Sound waters and our quality of life. The action creates protective buffer zones of 50 to 200 feet, insuring that any new development in the City will have to take into account the impacts to sensitive bird and salmon habitat. This victory was due to our appeal to the State Growth Management Hearings Board.
- ✓ We helped write and pass Tacoma's new Open Space Habitat and Recreation Plan by unanimous vote of the Tacoma City Council. It is the first ever for a city that had previously defined open space as anything that is not a building.
- ✓ We worked with statewide environmental groups to pass the Evergreen Communities Act (HB2844) developing an urban forestry inventory and incentives program. Statewide legislative victories in 2008 included two

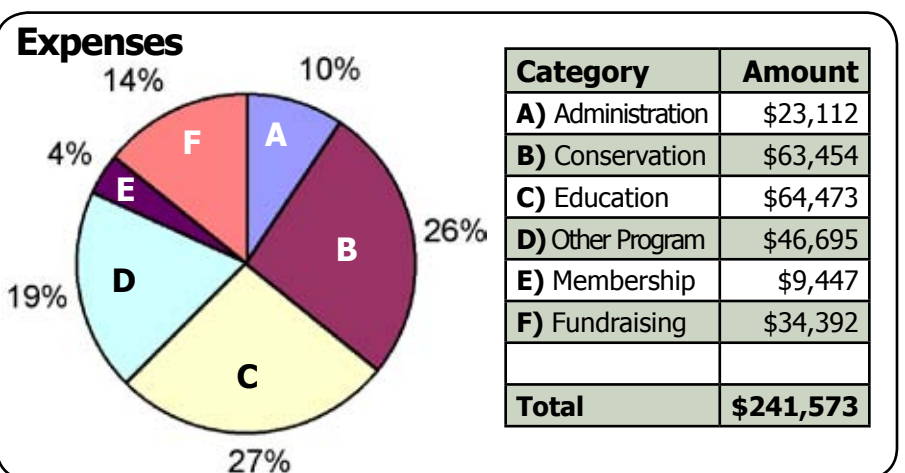
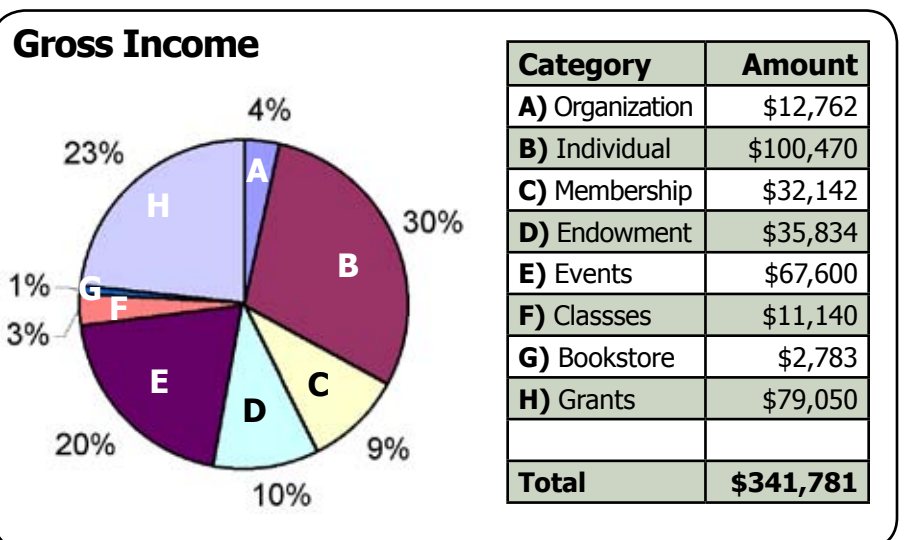
global warming related bills, and the Local Food, Healthy Kids bill.

- ✓ We defended the Conservation Futures program integrity and succeeded in keeping the Thea Foss Waterway Park as open space and a recreational boat launch facility.
- ✓ We helped influence a unanimous vote by MetroParks Tacoma Board to forgo rebuilding a pool at Titlow Park, making way for a restoration project in the pocket estuary and significantly improve salmon habitat.
- ✓ *Audubon Magazine* writer Ted Williams quoted Tahoma Audubon Executive Director Bryan Flint in a story on geoduck aquaculture that appeared in the Nov/Dec issue.
- ✓ Our 2008 drawing contest focused on three common bird species in decline – Evening Grosbeak, Greater Scaup and Anna's Hummingbird. Children from 20 schools submitted 120 drawing of one of these three birds while learning about their desperate situation.



# 2008 FINANCIAL REPORT

	Dec 31, 08
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash on Hand	\$27,272
Short Term Investments and Reserves	\$176,951
Greater Tacoma Community Fund (Endowment)	\$158,538
Inventory	\$2,934
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$365,695</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	
REAL PROPERTY	\$10,294
TANGIBLE ASSETS	\$17,785
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$393,775</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Sales Tax Payable	\$263
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$263</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
Permanently Restricted Funds (Endowment)	\$158,538
Temporarily Restricted Funds	\$42,776
Unrestricted Funds	\$60,767
Board-Directed Unrestricted Funds	\$96,123
Retained Earnings	\$35,308
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$393,512</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>\$393,775</b>



The Tahoma Audubon Society is the Pierce County Chapter of The National Audubon Society. We are in Adriana Hess Wetland Park at 2917 Morrison Rd W University Place, WA 98466 Hours: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Call 253-565-9278 or e-mail: [contact@TahomaAudubon.org](mailto:contact@TahomaAudubon.org)

