May5-9,

## 29th Annual Kachemak Bay SHOREBIRD FESTIVAL









HOMER NEWS









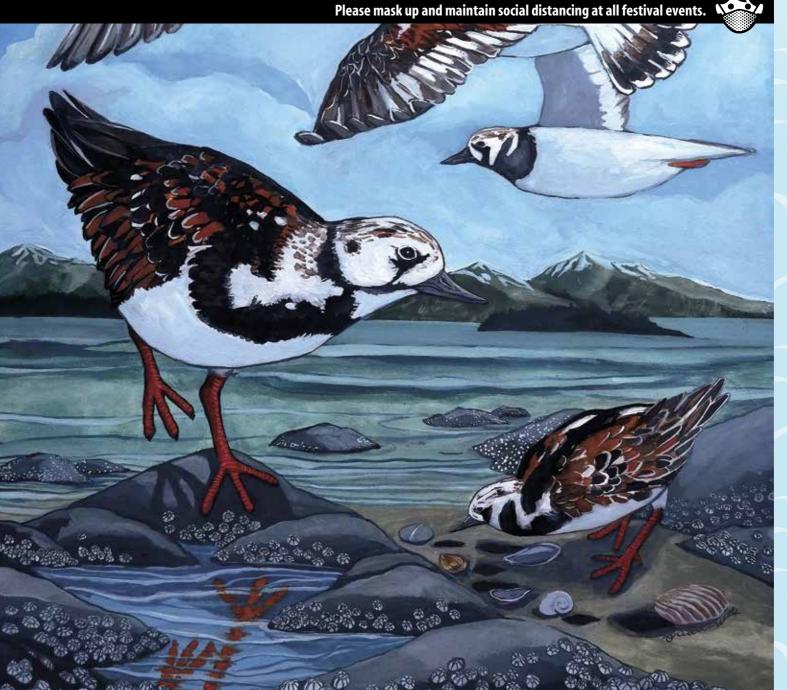








MAPS & EVENTS Pages 15-17



## FESTIVAL HEADQUARTERS

#### Alaska Maritime Refuge **Islands & Ocean Visitor Center**

95 Sterling Highway, Homer, AK 99603 Phone: (907) 226-4631, Fax: (907) 235-7783 info@kachemakshorebird.org

#### **Festival Registration Opens March 15**

Register online at kachemakshorebird.org. Need help registering? Email or call us M/T/Th, 12-4pm. info@kachemakshorebird.org | (907) 226-4631

#### Register Onsite May 3-9

Onsite registration hours are:

- · Monday/Tuesday/Thursday: 12-4pm
- Wednesday: 12-5pm
- Friday/Saturday: 8am—12pm and 3—6pm
- · Sunday: 8am-12pm

## Greetings BIRDERS!

Thank you for joining us for the 29th annual celebration of spring and community during the 2021 Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival. As you have probably already heard, YES, it will be a bit different—both live and virtual. We have all learned so much about how to hold live events safely and reach even more people with a virtual platform as well. Please know that whether you are seeing us in person with our smiles covered or on a screen with open smiles and hearts, we welcome birds and festival participants, who come from near and far to safely enjoy this beautiful bay and wondrous habitat.

To make this year's Festival accessible for all safely, we will be using a great App: WHOVA (whova.com). Go ahead and download it today; you will then have access to online registration and participation in our Keynote Speakers, Workshops, Science Talks, Labs, Junior Birder activities and MORE, all safely from wherever you are joining us.

In 2020 more people than ever turned to birds and birding as a way to connect, with nature and with other people with the same interests. That connection can happen through shared stories and photographs like those that will be shared by Paul Bannick, Author, Photographer and Keynote Speaker in his presentation: Snowy Owl: A Visual Natural History.

For a unique perspective on our connection to birds, join us for a Birdability Workshop: Because Birding is for Everybody and Every Body! Presented by Freya McGregor from Birdability, birdability.org, and for two heartfelt talks by Joe Blanda, Nature Can Heal — My Big Year and Nature Can Heal; Build Your Naturescape.

Enjoy Keynote Addresses from Eli Knapp, who will draw from his recent book, The Delightful Horror of Family Birding and one more talk where he'll share his brand new Bird Poems and Illustrations inspired when birding with his children.

During the 2021 Festival, we will be following all current COVID Safe Protocols and ask each of you to do the same and while we may not be standing close together, we will be together as we each appreciate our connection to shorebirds and the natural bounty of the preserved lands and waters of Kachemak Bay.

Of course, the Festival would not be possible without the bountiful support we receive from our local and statewide business sponsors along with the national organizations who continue to support this home-grown Festival possible for 29 vears and counting!

A Special thanks to all of the volunteers whose commitment and enthusiasm is responsible for the longevity of our Festival.

Please mask up and maintain social distancing at all festival events.







## THE KACHEMAK BAY SHOREBIRD FESTIVAL Planning Committee



**Brad Anderson** Homer Chamber of Commerce



Michael Armstrong **Homer News** 



**Marianne Aplin** USFWS



Kendra Bush USFWS



**Melanie Dufour** Friends of AK NWR



**Jim Herbert** Kachemak Bay Birders



**Bridget Maryott** Cook Inletkeeper



**Robbi Mixon** Cook Inletkeeper



**Dana Nelson KBNERR** 



**Betty Siegel** Friends of AK NWR



**Jason Sodergren** Friends of AK NWR



**Carla Stanley** USFWS Volunteer



**Karl Stoltzfus Bay Excursions** 



**Beth Trowbridge** Center for AK Coastal Studies



The Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival takes more than nine months to plan, organize, and coordinate. Meet the team of dedicated and passionate volunteers and staff who make up the Kachemak **Bay Shorebird Festival Planning Committee and** who work so hard to bring this Festival to you!

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Workshops & Presentations



**Junior Birder** 



**Boat Tour** 



**Entertainment** 



with Registration







The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is following federal, state, and local public health authority guidance as we continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Face masks required on federal land when you are with or likely to encounter non-household members such as at festival headquarters or on guided walks.

- Maintain a safe distance between yourself and other groups
- · Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- · Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze
- Most importantly, stay home if you feel sick.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Please mask up and maintain social distancing at all festival events.



#### **Jr. Birder Virtual 3D** Beginning Birder Lab 🕏 🗹 🏵

Ongoing | Virtual

All festival participants have the opportunity to explore the virtual 3D Beginning Birder Lab filmed in the education laboratory of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. Throughout the virtual lab, participants can explore each lab station to learn about basic birding skills, birding tools, local bird habitats and bird identification. \*This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder requirements.

I Spy Birds 🖚 🕱 🗸 Ongoing | Homer Area Businesses

All week long play a fun game of I Spy when in Homer at area businesses. Homer Parks and Recreation have helped put together an

I Spy Birds where local businesses will have stuffed animal birds in their windows. When you spot one you can go take a picture and post it using #KbayShorebird2021. You can also use your Flat Stanley Bird found in the Junior Birders Packet or on the Junior Birders website and take a picture with it too! This is free and for all ages to enjoy.

## **Self Guided Bird Identification**

Family Trail Walks Ongoing | Trails at Calvin and Coyle, Pratt Museum, Beluga Slough Led by Ranger Kendra /FWS

Practice your bird identification skills along these 3 family-friendly local hiking trails. In addition to spotting real live birds, participants can also search for special laminated birds hidden along the way. There will be both field guides and bird checklists (for the laminated birds) provided at each trailhead.



#### **Self Guided Shorebird Viewing,** Lighthouse Village (🗸)

Drop in anytime (not tide dependent) | Lighthouse Village

Lighthouse Village viewing can be productive anytime during the day to find birds and wildlife. As this is self-quided this year, bring your scopes and/or binoculars to search the wetlands for songbirds, shorebirds, Sandhill Cranes, Bald Eagles and a variety of waterfowl.

#### Self Guided Shorebird Viewing, Mud Bay

10:45am-12pm | Mud Bay

Stop by the Mud Bay Viewing Station for self-guided shorebird viewing. This time frame is prime time when the tides are best for watching any birds in the area.

#### Kachemak Bay Birding, Wildlife and Natural History Tour

8:30am-3pm | Harbor Ramp 6, Slip EE-21, M/V Pinbone

Led by Seaman's Adventures

Experience Kachemak Bay at its best! This full-day birding and wildlife tour, led by Seaman's Ecotour Adventures, explores the waters off the Homer Spit, Yukon Island, Sadie Cove and Eldridge Passage, Gull Island, Halibut Cove and Glacier Spit. See a wide variety of birds, several species of marine mammals, mountain goats, and learn the fascinating geology and natural history of Kachemak Bay. This roomy, stable boat has a heated pilot house, water, toilet, and a large rear deck that provides a great viewing platform for birders and photographers. Bring a lunch. Snacks and beverages provided. Limit 6. \$175 ea.

#### Bird ID Virtual Trail Walk 🗟 🗹 🧭

3-5pm | Virtual

Led by Ranger Kendra Bush, FWS

Join Ranger Kendra with the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge for this virtual interactive lesson based on basic bird identification. Participants will get the opportunity to learn how to use bird identification tools and then practice those tools during a virtual bird walk. Available to all ages. \*This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder requirements.

YOUR TOWN, YOUR NEWS, YOUR PAPER, SINCE 1964

Jeff Hayden, Publisher Michael Armstrong, Editor

Malia Anderson, Advertising Representative Melanie Dufour, Editorial Content Oceana Wills, Cover Illustration

#### THURSDAY. MAY 6TH



#### Self Guided Shorebird Viewing, Lighthouse Village (🗸)

Drop in anytime (not tide dependent) | Lighthouse Village See description on page 4.

#### Lake Clark National Park Bear and Bird Viewing

7:30am-2:30pm | Anchor River State Rec Area, Beach Tractor Launch Led by Alaskan Gamefisher (Mel Erickson)

Travel by boat to Lake Clark National Park on Cook Inlet's remote west coast to view coastal brown bears and migrating sea birds. Join bear guide Captain Mel Erickson, along with world renowned bird expert Debra Hess who will be onboard the "Gamefisher" to point out and identify dozens of different species of birds. You'll also see giant brown bears digging clams, walking the beach, or grazing on the sedge grasses in the salt marsh. This event is weather dependent. Limit 6. \$300 ea. As the shorebirds arrive in Kachemak Bay, sea ducks prepare to head north to

#### The Wise and Wonderful Journey

Check-in: 7:30am, 8-10am | Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, located at the top of Ramp 2, M/V Billy Hawk Led by Alan's Water Taxi (Alan Parks)

Join experienced guide and local bird expert Willy Dunne on a journey of discovery. Visit Gull Island, opportunities for up-close viewing of Horned and Tufted Puffins, pigeon guillemots, cormorants, kittiwakes and murres. The journey cruises to Willy's special birding places where we may encounter Aleutian Terns, Red-necked Phalaropes, murrelets, waterfowl and wildlife. The rich biodiversity of Kachemak Bay supports marine mammals, nesting eagles, loons, kingfishers, sea ducks and many other species are common sightings. Limit 6.\$85 ea.

#### Fins and Feathers Boat Excursion

8–10am | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

Head to Gull Island, home of 12,000 nesting birds and 12 different species of birds (puffins- horned and tufted; gulls-kittiwake and glaucous-winged; common murres; pigeon guillemots, and cormorants-pelagic, double-crested and redfaced). From there cruise to different areas where unique birds have been spotted recently, including harlequin ducks; goldeneye ducks; scoters — surf, black and white winged; loons —yellow billed, common and red throated; rednecked phalaropes; red-necked grebes; kingfishers and jaegers. Bring your life list, a snack, warm clothes and a camera. Hot drinks provided. Limit 12.\$70 ea.

#### Beaks and Bills Boat Tour



Join us on a venture to spot the many shorebirds of Kachemak Bay. We'll take a cruise to Gull Island, home of 12,000 nesting birds, with an opportunity to get up close and personal to the 12 different nesting species. From there, our journey continues with the flowing tide to seek out some of the unique birds and other wildlife that can be found along the coastline, including kingfishers, black oystercatchers, nesting eagles, and sea otter rafts. This vessel has outdoor seating. Bring warm layers, binoculars, and snacks. Limit 12. \$75 ea. (\$50 under 12yo).

#### Cold Duck Time 🏶

8:30-11am | Harbor Ramp 2, Boat House Pavilion Led by Mako's Water Taxi

their happy nesting grounds. Tour Kachemak Bay's southern shore in search of the Mergini tribe. Goldeneye, Harlequin and long-tailed ducks are just a few of the fine feathered friends that inhabit our bays and coves. Dress warmly. Enclosed boat with open back access; no facilities. Limit 18. \$75 ea.

#### Kachemak Bay Birding, Wildlife and Natural History Tour

8:30am-3pm | Harbor Ramp 6, Slip EE-21, M/V Pinbone Led by Seaman's Adventures See description on page 4. Limit 6. \$175 ea.

#### Flow with the Birds: Half Day Kayak Tour

Two Options: Check-in at 8:30am, 9am-1pm, or Check-in at 12:30pm, 1-5pm Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, located at the top of Ramp 2, M/V Billy Hawk

Led by St. Augustine's Kayak Tour (Alan Parks)

A 15-min water taxi cruse to visit Gull Island with up-close viewing opportunity for puffins, guillemots, cormorants, kittiwakes and murres. Then to a nearby beach for shoreside instruction. Let the tide carry you through the calm waters and the abundant biodiversity of China Poot Bay as you glimpse stunning



#### VIEWING STATIONS

Current bird sightings list will be posted at kachemakbaybirders.org, with a map of recent sightings at kachemakbaybirders. org/ebird map/.

Check out the Shorebird Checklist on page 15. Special thanks to the Kachemak Bay Birders!

#### **Viewing Stations**

#### **Mud Bav**

Viewing can be productive anytime during any day here to find birds and wildlife.

- Wednesday Morning, 10:45am-12pm, Mud Bay
- Thursday Afternoon, **12–2pm**, Mud Bay
- Friday Afternoon, 1-3pm, Mud Bay
- Saturday Afternoon, 2:15-4:15pm, Mud Bay
- Sunday Afternoon, 3:30-5pm, Mud Bay

#### **Lighthouse Village**

Viewing here is not tide dependent. Drop by anytime!

> Please follow posted "COVID Safe" signs.

## DESTINATION: Alaskan Gifts & Art take a piece of Alaska home

Offering Exquisite Bird Paintings & Carvings

Welcome, Birders, to the Art Shop Gallery where the coffee & tea are always on

## The Art Shop Gallery

OPEN Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-4 • 202 W. Pioneer Ave Suite A • 235-7076 • artshopgallery.com

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER



#### **Paul Bannick**

Paul Bannick, Author, Photographer and Keynote Speaker is a wildlife photographer specializing in the natural history of North America with a focus on birds and habitat. Coupling his love of the outdoors with his skill as a photographer, he creates images that foster the intimacy between viewer and subject, inspiring education and conservation. His passion is time in the field observing and photographing Owls. Through his photographs, these enigmatic birds come to life in evocative images and stories collected through decades of first-hand experience in the field.

**Keynote Address Snowy Owl: A Visual Natural History** Saturday, May 8, 5:30-6:30pm Virtual with Live 0&A



scenery and wildlife from a kayak. Listen for black oystercatchers, shorebirds, watch for bald eagles pursuing the next meal, keep a look out for harlequin ducks foraging along the shore. Explore the bay's unique rose-colored rock formations that illustrate ancient tectonic forces. Limit 12. \$95 ea.

#### Cookies and Coffee and Songbird Walkabout

9-11am | Seaside Farm

Led by Mossy Kilcher

Join lifelong, knowledgeable Birder, Mossy Kilcher on her Seaside Farm Songbird Sanctuary located on the Homer Bench for a morning Songbird Walkabout. She'll lead you on a trail winding through the fields and the trees to the shoreline of Kachemak Bay where shorebirds make their stopovers. Bring your binoculars! Mossy will point out various birdsongs, characteristics and nests of various birds along the trails. You WON'T miss a bird or a nest with Mossy as your guide. Coffee and Cookies will be (safely) available for every quest. Limit 30. \$15 ea. (\$10 under 12yo).

#### Seabird Sidetrip 🖀

9am-12pm | Harbor Ramp 3, turn right at the bottom, M/V Torega Led by Bay Excursions

Join local bird expert Karl Stoltzfus of Bay Excursions as he shares his favorite birding places during a 3-hour cruise of Kachemak Bay. Look for Kittlitz's and Marbled Murrelets, eiders, loons, shorebirds, and many other species, with excellent close-up viewing opportunities for all passengers. Enclosed boat with open back access; no facilities. Limit 12. \$75 ea. (\$45 under 12yo).

#### Pre-K Puffins Virtual Session





Led by Ranger Kendra Bush, FWS

Join Ranger Kendra with Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge for this special session of the Pre-K Puffins Early Learning Program all about Shorebirds! This educational program is designed for children ages 2-5 and will include early learning centered activities, a craft and story time. \*This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder requirements.

#### Kayak with Birds and Wildlife



10am-2pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

Enjoy a scenic water taxi ride to Yukon Island, disembark and paddle around the Island, watching for sea ducks, shorebirds, eagles and sea otters. Wear

warm, layered clothes and raingear. Bring water and lunch. Light snacks and hot drinks provided. All experience levels welcome. Enclosed boat with open back access; no facilities. Limit 6. \$95 ea. (\$85 under 12yo).

#### Gulls and Glaciers 🖀

10am-4pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

With your naturalist guide, cruise to Gull Island via water taxi to check out 12,000 nesting birds including puffins. From there we'll head to Glacier Spit Trailhead to hike up to Glacier Lake learning about the fascinating glaciology of Kachemak Bay. There will be a geological mystery to solve as well as snacks and hot drinks. Bring lunch, water, and layers. Meet at the True North Kayak Office at 9:45am. Limit 6. \$125 ea.

#### **Guided Birding and Wildlife Tour** and Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake



Check-in: 10am, 10:30am-4pm | Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, M/V Billy Hawk

Led by Alan's Water Taxi (Alan Parks)

Captain Willy Dunne, experienced guide and local bird expert, will cruise to Gull Island. Opportunities for up-close viewing of horned & tufted puffins, pigeon quillemots, cormorants, kittiwake's and murres. Then following the coast viewing sea ducks, otters and wildlife. At Rusty's Lagoon you'll have opportunities to experience a diversity of bird activity, including shorebirds, raptors, kingfishers, waterfowl and wildlife. Your guide will lead you on an easy trail up the glacier moraine to the open beaches of Grewingk Glacier Lake, and mountain peaks, returning on the Saddle trail with views of Halibut Cove. Limit 6. \$90 ea.

#### Self Guided Shorebird Viewing, Mud Bay



12-2pm | Mud Bay

See description on page 4.

#### Marine Wildlife Tour



1-3pm | Harbor Ramp 3, turn right at the bottom, M/V Torega Led by Bay Excursions

Join Karl Stoltzfus for a two hour trip on Kachemak Bay looking for birds and marine mammals. Highlights include Gull Island and areas with sea otters and other marine mammals that happen to be around. We will also keep a sharp eye out for Shorebirds such as Surfbirds and Black Turnstones. Limit 12. \$65 ea. (\$35 under 12yo).



#### Kayaking and Archeology of Kachemak Bay 🏶

1-5pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

Water Taxi to Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge's Yukon Island keeping an eye out for birds and wildlife. We will kayak past ancient villages just as the Sugpiag did 1000 years ago, learn about the ways of the Sugpiag and Denaina people and Frederika de Laguna the spunky archeologist who explored our bay in the late 1920s. Limit 12. \$95 ea. (\$85 under 12yo).

### KBay Science **② ♡**The Importance of Beach Cast Wrack as Habitat and Resource

2-2:15pm | Virtual with realtime Q&A

Led by Brian Ulaski, UAF

Kachemak Bay is a known stopover site for migrating shorebirds, and beach cast wrack habitat maybe be an important foraging role for migrating birds. Brian will share plans for his 2021 field season researching the wrack!

## KBay Science 40

#### Marine Invasive Species in Kachemak Bay and the Potential Threats They Pose to Shorebirds

2:20-2:35pm | Virtual with realtime Q&A

Led by Jasmine Maurer and Rosie Masui, KBRR

Marine invasive species can alter the habitat quality for native species. Two effective ways to address marine invasive species are prevention, through community awareness and engagement, and early detection. Listen to how our program combines active monitoring for invasive species around Kachemak Bay with public outreach and education in order to reduce the threat of marine species invasion in Kachemak Bay.

#### Anchor River Bird Walk 🗢 🏈

2:30-4:30pm | Anchor River State Recreation Area

Led by Aaron Lang and Dale Chorman

Discover the hottest birding spots along the Anchor River. Seabirds, songbirds, shorebirds, water birds, raptors and more! Join our experienced guides for a 2.5 mile walk along the beach and Anchor River to its mouth. There's the potential

to see rarities like Bristle-thighed Curlew, Glaucous Gulls or Horned Lark. More common are Whimbrels, yellowlegs, scoters, loons, guillemots, mergansers, "peeps", harlequin hucks, and murrelets. Wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots to walk in sand. Dress in layers and take water and binoculars. Limit 10.

## KBay Science 🗹 🏈

#### Slimy Stopover: Biofilm and Shorebirds in Mud Bay

2:40-3pm | Virtual with realtime Q&A

Led by Catie Bursch and Audrey Taylor

Shorebird use of highly nutritious biofilms on the surface of intertidal mudflats has been documented in a number of places on the Pacific flyway. But are there biofilms in Kachemak Bay and are shorebirds relying on them to fuel northbound migration?

#### **Birds on the Spit:** Partnerships in Conservation 🗢 🗹 🧭

3-3:20pm | Virtual with realtime Q&A

Led by Courtney Dodge

Birds make use of unsuspecting places, especially if those places are underwater during high tide. The Kachemak Heritage Land Trust and the City of Homer have conserved 25 acres of bird habitat on The Homer Spit and we invite you to join us for a closer look at the mud and muck these birds call home during low tide.

#### Birds, Their Food and Their Habitats: Virtual Lab 🚗 🗟 🗸 🏈

4-6pm | Virtual

Led by Ranger Kendra /FWS

Join Ranger Kendra with the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge for this virtual lab based lesson all about what birds eat. Participants will follow along as Ranger Kendra dissects pellets from three very different species of birds and then explores the different habitats each bird species finds its food in. In addition, the first 35 registrants will get their very own bird pellet to dissect after the workshop (these can either be mailed or picked up at the festival registration. \*This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder requirements. No limit for Workshop; 35 registrants will receive Owl Pellet.

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER



#### Eli J. Knapp

Eli J. Knapp loves to be where the wild things are. His observations and adventures have been published in New York State Conservationist, Pennsylvania Magazine, Birdwatcher's Digest, and recent book, The Deliahtful Horror of Family Birding: Sharing Nature with the **Next Generation.** When not bushwhacking through thickets and writing about it, Eli teaches courses in the Biology and Intercultural Studies departments at Houghton College. His wide range of research interests emerged from three years living in Serengeti National Park, studying the coexistence of people and wildlife around protected areas. This past year he has more opportunities than ever to share nature and birding with his whole family!

#### **Keynote Address New and Fun: Bird Poetry and Illustration**

Friday, May 7, 6:30-7:30pm Virtual with Live O&A

#### Keynote Address The Delightful **Horror of Beautiful Birds**

Saturday, May 8, 7:30-8:30pm Virtual with Live Q&A



Cabin! Pull up your Boat, Tie Up & Unwind. #8176 \$215,000





Birdhouse in Your Soul! Location, Location, Elevation! Just UP West Hill gives you Epic Homer Views.

\$123,000 #3529

## ART & ADVENTURE



Local artists and Festival friends have each created a unique, handmade piece inspired by the many birds of Alaska. Each piece will be auctioned online in support of the Festival. Submissions can be viewed at The Bagel Shop starting April 30 and throughout the Festival.

#### Other items up for auction:

- Oceana Wills original Festival artwork
- Original Art Pieces
- 2 night stay at the Stanley Cabin in Jakalof Bay
- RAVN Air Vouchers for 2
- A day Flyfishing on the Anchor River, bird feeders and more!

Proceeds benefit the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival and ensure topnotch programs, speakers, and the ongoing legacy of the Festival.

#### Bidding opens April 30, 2021, and will close at noon on May 9.

Items may be picked up at Festival Headquarters or arranged for mailing.

Visit our auction at: biddingowl.com/kachemakshorebird



#### Self Guided Shorebird Viewing, **Lighthouse Village**Drop in anytime (not tide dependent) | Lighthouse Village

See description on page 4.

#### Barren Islands Birding

7am-5pm | Homer Harbor, Slip E2, M/V Jackpot Led by Rainbow Tours

Visit the Barren Islands Bird Rookery on the Alaska Maritime NWR. A great opportunity to view pelagic seabirds, whales and more during this 100+ mile round trip journey with a naturalist on board. Dress warmly with rain gear and bring binoculars, bird books and cameras. Lunch included. Enclosed boat with open back access; has facilities. This event is weather dependent. Limit 16. \$169 ea.

#### Intermediate/Advanced Songbird Walk 🦈

7:30-9am | Baycrest trail off of Rogers Loop Rd. Led by George Matz

Join expert birder George Matz for this intermediate to advanced level guided walk through the upland habitats of the Baycrest ski trails looking for songbirds and other forest dwellers. Waterproof boots and rain jacket are recommended; bring binos and a scope if you have one. To find the trailhead, turn onto Rodgers Loop Road and look for (or search) Skyline Trailhead Parking. Limit 10. \$7 ea.

#### Lake Clark National Park Bear and Bird Viewing

7:30am-2:30pm | Anchor River State Rec Area, Lake Tractor Launch Led by Alaskan Gamefisher (Mel Erickson) See description on page 5. Limit 6. \$300 ea.

#### The Wise and Wonderful Journey

Check-in: 7:30am, 8-10am | Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, located at the top of Ramp 2, M/V Billy Hawk Led by Alan's Water Taxi (Alan Parks)

See description on page 5. Limit 6. \$85 ea.

#### Fins and Feathers Boat Excursion



See description on page 5. Limit 12. \$70 ea.

#### Beaks and Bills Boat Tour



Two options: 8-11am or 1-4pm | Harbor Ramp 3, M/V Seabird *Led by Seabird Ventures (Lindsey/Davey)* 

See description on page 5. Limit 12. \$75 ea. (\$50 under 12yo).

#### Coldwater, Hot Birds

8-11am | Harbor, bottom of Ramp 3, M/V Granite Cape Led by ColdWater and Aaron Lang

Coldwater Alaska and Wilderness Birding Adventures will show you some

of their favorite birding spots on the Bay during this three-hour tour guided by Aaron Lang and Captain Brian Reid. Kachemak Bay is one of the richest marine environments in Alaska and this short tour will provide a sampling of the diversity of birds and wildlife found at our doorstep. Almost anything is possible on this trip and we'll keep our route options open to take advantage of the serendipity of migration. Limit 6. \$75 ea.

#### Cold Duck Time 🏶

8:30-11am | Harbor Ramp 2 Boat House Pavilion Led by Mako's Water Taxi See description on page 5. Limit 18. \$75 ea.

#### **Kachemak Bay Birding,** Wildlife and Natural History Tour

8:30am-3pm | Harbor Ramp 6, Slip EE-21, M/V Pinbone Led by Seaman's Adventures See description on page 4. Limit 6. \$175 ea.

#### Flow with the Birds: Half Day Kayak Tour

Two options: Check-in: 8:30am, 9am-1pm, or Check-in: 12:30pm, 1-5pm Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, located at the top of Ramp 2, M/V Billy Hawk Led by St. Augustine's Kayak Tour (Alan Parks) See description on page 5. Limit 12.\$95 ea.

#### Observing Diving Alcids with ROV Technology



9am-12pm | Harbor Ramp 2, M/V Orca Led by Curt Jackson

Kachemak Bay provides incredible opportunities to view diving alcids at the surface. Now recent technological innovations have provided us an opportunity to observe what these amazing birds look like foraging below the water line. Come aboard the heated Orca landing craft with Captain Curt and his ROV to marvel at these agile animals. The Remote Operated Underwater Vehicle will give us a unique, up-close view of these sea birds in their aquatic world. Limit 6. \$80 ea. (\$60 under 12yo).

#### Seabird Sidetrip 🚳

9am-12pm | Harbor Ramp 3, turn right at the bottom, M/V Torega Led by Bay Excursions

See description on page 6. Limit 12. \$75 ea. (\$45 under 12yo).

#### Pre-K Family Birding Walk 🕸 🍑

10-11:30am | Louie's Lagoon on the Homer Spit Led by Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies

Join a CACS Naturalist on a walk focused on exploration and observation. Little ones and their families will look for bird signs and clues of feeding, walking and resting. \*This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder Requirements. Limit 12, ages 2–6, + parents. Free, Registration REQUIRED.

#### Kayak with Birds and Wildlife



10am-2pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

See description on page 6. Limit 12. \$95 ea. (\$85 under 12yo).

#### FRIDAY, MAY ITH

#### Gulls and Glaciers 🏶

10am—4pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures See description on page 6. Limit 6. \$125 ea.

## Guided Birding and Wildlife Tour and Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake

Check-in: 10am, 10:30am—4pm | Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, M/V Billy Hawk Led by Alan's Water Taxi (Alan Parks) See description on page 6. Limit 6. \$90 ea.

#### 

12:30–1:30pm | Virtual with live Q&A Led by Freya McGregor

Birding is an activity that can bring so much joy and empowerment to everybody, but not everybody is able to go birding easily. Birdability is a non-profit organization focused on removing barriers to access for birders with mobility challenges, blindness or low vision, intellectual or developmental disabilities (including autism), mental illness, being Deaf or Hard of Hearing and other health concerns; and bringing the joy of birding to people with disabilities and other health concerns who aren't yet birders. Learn about why

this should matter to you (even if you don't have an accessibility challenge), ways to be a more welcoming and inclusive birder, the Birdability Map (and how to submit a Birdability Site Review) and our resources for birders (and potential future birders) with accessibility challenges... because birding is for everybody and every body! Learn more and find resources at *birdability.org*.

#### Intermediate/Advanced Shorebird Walk 💏

1—2:30pm | Meet on Kachemak Drive at the trailhead by KBRR Led by George Matz

Join expert birder George Matz for this intermediate to advanced level guided walk looking for songbirds and other forest dwellers. Waterproof boots and rain jacket are recommended; bring binos and a scope if you have one. Limit 10. \$7 ea.

#### Creatures of the Dock Tours 🥌

1–2:30pm | CACS Yurt on the Spit, nearest GPS address 4350 Homer Spit Road Led by Center for Alaska Coastal Studies

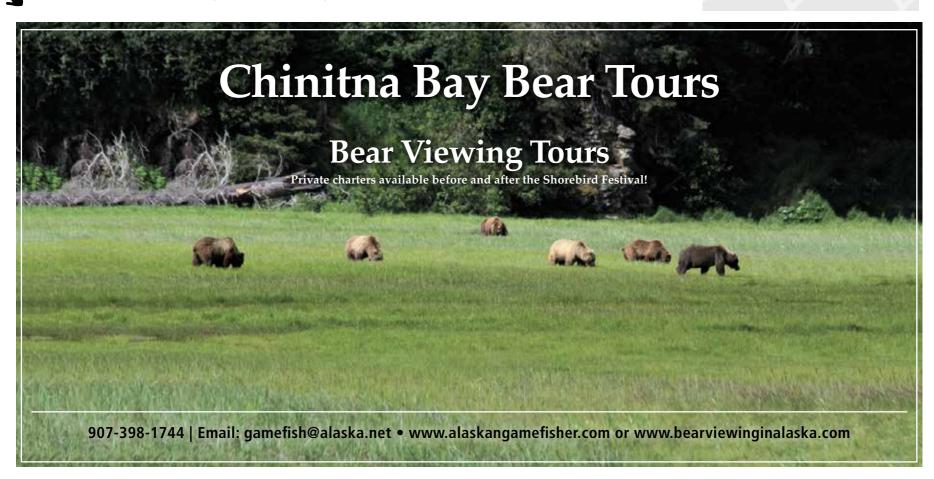
Take a tour of the amazing intertidal life right under your feet at Homer harbor docks. Based out of the CACS Yurt on the Spit, a trained naturalist will guide you through an amazing exploration of invertebrate life in our Harbor! Limit 20. \$10 ea. (\$5 under 12yo, free under 2yo).

## VOLUNTEERS MAKE IT HAPPEN!

In 1993 a group of Homer residents got together, dreaming up an event to educate the public about the importance of shorebirds and their habitat. These early volunteers set our Festival in motion 29 years ago and we are grateful for the community support we receive for the Festival today.

The Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival would not be possible without the continued commitment and support of our wonderful volunteers. Over 80 dedicated folks come together to offer their time and expertise ensuring the success, longevity and spunk of this community Festival.

A big **THANK YOU** to each and every volunteer who has donated their time to manage our Viewing Stations, lead bird walks, count attendees, carry scopes, edit this program, create art pieces, offer their wisdom and everything in between.



### SPRING SIGHTINGS



Kachemak Bay is home not only to the spring shorebird migration, but many other hard-to-find bird species as well. Early May brings the first warblers and swallows to Homer, along with Sandhill Cranes, Arctic and Aleutian Terns, Fork-Tailed Storm-petrels and Puffins, both Tufted and Horned. Cormorants, Common Murres and Black-legged Kittiwakes can be found assembling near their nesting sites on Gull Island, and Common Eider, Pigeon Guillemot, Marbled and Kittlitz's Murrelets are visible on Kachemak Bay. Look for Eurasian Wigeons in Mud Bay and Beluga Lake. Find American Three-toed and Hairy Woodpeckers in the spruce wood areas. And, though not a shorebird, the always-sought-after Bald Eagle can be spotted frequently on shore and in the sky. Many of the 236 species of birds recorded for Kachemak Bay may be visible during Shorebird Festival weekend.

For a complete species list visit kachemakbaybirders.org.

**HOMER NEWS Special Edition** 

#### Self Guided Shorebird Viewing, Mud Bay 🕢

1-3pm | Mud Bay

See description on page 4.

#### Shorebird Walk 🕉

1-3pm | Mud Bay Parking Lot Led by Aaron Lang

Walk the beach from Mud Bay to Louie's lagoon with expert birding guide Aaron Lang. Wear boots, it's Mud Bay after all. Limit 10. \$7 ea.

#### Marine Wildlife Tour

1-3pm | Harbor Ramp 3, turn right at the bottom, M/V Torega Led by Bay Excursions

See description on page 6. Limit 12. \$65 ea. (\$35 under 12yo).

#### Kayaking and Archeology of Kachemak Bay

1-5pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

See description on page 7. Limit 12. \$95 ea. (\$85 under 12yo).

#### Shorebird Science 📤 🕢 🏈

#### The Cuddly Killer: Consequences of Un-Owned and Free-Ranging Pet Cats on Migratory Birds, Themselves, and People

2-2:15pm | Virtual with realtime Q&A Led by Rick Lanctot, USFWS

Join Dr. Rick Lanctot as he describes how un-owned and free-ranging pet cats are having a devastating effect on migratory birds, including shorebirds, as well as other biodiversity. He also will describe how having cats outside influences human health and the cat's own health, discuss solutions, and ask the public to take an active role in solving this very solvable problem.

#### Shorebird Science 📤 🚄 🤡 **Migratory Ecology and Harvest Exposure Risk of Lesser Yellowlegs**

2:20-2:35pm | Virtual with realtime Q&A Led by Laura McDuffie

The Lesser Yellowlegs has experienced a precipitous population decline of ~63% since the 1970s. Using PinPoint GPS Argos satellite transmitters, we tracked the migratory movements of birds originating from six breeding and post-breeding locations across Alaska and Canada. This study is providing crucial information required for effective conservation planning for the Lesser Yellowlegs.

#### Shorebird Science 🗸 🕢 🍑 **Collaborative Conservation for Alaskan** Birds in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway

2:40-2:55pm | Virtual with realtime Q&A Led by Casey Burns, BLM

Many Alaskan bird species, especially shorebirds, are in decline. They depend on healthy habitat in the Arctic, but their survival also depends on finding food and safe stopovers during migration and in their non-breeding season in other parts of the world. Casey Burns of the Bureau of Land Management will share details about the urgent need for international collaboration on migratory bird outreach, management, and research.

#### Fabulous Feathers Virtual Workshop # 4 🕏

4pm | Virtual

Led by Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies

Live afternoon virtual event/lesson on birds and their fabulous feathers with a CACS Educator. Explore the unique characteristics of feathers, how they help birds fly, their cultural uses and significance, and try your hand at a mystery feather game. \*This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder requirements.

## Art of Tattooing Birds for Adults // 🕢 🛇

5-7pm | Virtual

Led by Peter Degraffenried and Ranger Kendra Bush, FWS

Join Ranger Kendra with the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge along with one of Homer's very talented tattoo artists, Peter Degraffenried, for the adult level virtual workshop based on the art of tattooing birds. Participants will get the opportunity to try sketching their very own bird tattoo and then get it made into a temporary tattoo. For ages 18+. Limit 35.



#### FRIDAY, MAY / H and SATURDAY, MAY

#### Birding by Fat Bike 🥕 🦨

5-8pm | 302 W. Pioneer Ave.

Led by Cyclelogical

Get away from the crowds and explore further by Fat Bike with Cycle Logical. We will gather at 302 East Pioneer Avenue to get familiar with the equipment and then roll on down to Bishop's Beach, heading north from there on the hunt for the elusive Solitary Sandpiper, Short-tailed Shearwater, and the more common Sandhill Crane and Western Sandpiper. Participants should have some experience mountain biking and expect moderately technical riding on the beach, with areas of smooth sand and loose rock. So that we may put you on a bike that best fits you, please get in touch by calling (907) 226-2925. Limit 8. \$150 ea.

#### Shorebird Festival Opening Reception

5:30-7pm | Homer Chamber of Commerce Lawn at 201 Sterling Highway Led by Homer Chamber of Commerce

The Homer Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center Board of Directors invites you to an Outdoor Reception. Enjoy appetizers from Homer's renowned eateries and refreshments sponsored by Bear Creek Winery, Schooler Nolan Wines, Homer Brewing Company, Grace Ridge Brewing and Sweetgale Meadworks and Cider House. Homer Bookstore will be at the Reception offering an array of Festival keynote speakers bird books for perusal and purchase. Hosts will be available to showcase the fusion of art, culture, dining, and wilderness surrounding Homer and Kachemak Bay. COVID guidelines will be followed. Limit 50.

#### Keynote Workshop 📤 🗟 🗹 🤡 Eli Knapp: New and Fun Bird **Poetry and Illustration**

6:30-7:30pm | Virtual with live Q&A Led by Eli Knapp

Birds Delight! So does Poetry! As Eli spent more time birding with his family this past year, he watched and wrote and illustrated too! You'll be among the first he shares this new work with and be inspired.



#### Self Guided Shorebird Viewing, Lighthouse Village (🗸)

Drop in anytime (not tide dependent) | Lighthouse Village See description on page 4.

#### Barren Islands Birding

7am-5pm | Homer Harbor, Slip E2, M/V Jackpot Led by Rainbow Tours

See description on page 8. Limit 16. \$169 ea.



Saturday, May 8, 1-2:30pm

Virtual

A TLC educator will provide a unique chance to see a wild bird up close, giving all an opportunity to learn about this particular bird's behavior, and its importance in the environment.

#### Alaska's Avian Rehabilitation and Education Specialists

Bird Treatment and Learning Center (Bird TLC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to rehabilitating sick, injured or orphaned wild birds and providing live avian educational presentations to the public.

## THE GROG SHOP 369 E. Pioneer Ave., Homer •235-5101

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## WORLD WILDLIFE FUND



#### The World Wildlife Fund Salutes the Kachemak **Bay Shorebird Festival**

For two decades, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has worked to protect America's most remarkable Arctic places and species. With WWF colleages in other Arctic nations we reach around the globe to conserve wildlife and ecosystems in a warming and more crowded world.

Today we're committed to minimizing threats posed by increasing trans-arctic shipping, preventing potentially devastating offshore oil and gas development, protecting Bristol Bay from large-scale mining, and to reducing human/polar bear conflict along Alaska's northern coast.

Since 2008 WWF's US Arctic Program has been a proud sponsor of the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival. We salute the Festival's organizers, volunteers, and US Fish and Wildlife Service staff who continue to help us all understand, appreciate, and protect our returning shorebirds and the irreplaceable places they need to complete their epic life stories.



#### Lake Clark National Par<u>k</u> Bear and Bird Viewing

7:30am-2:30pm | Anchor River State Rec Area, Lake Tractor Launch Alaskan Gamefisher (Mel Erickson)

See description on page 5. Limit 6. \$300 ea.

#### The Wise and Wonderful Journey 🖀



Check-in: 7:30am, 8–10am | Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, located at the top of Ramp 2, M/V Billy Hawk Led by Alan's Water Taxi (Alan Parks)

See description on page 5. Limit 6. \$85 ea.

#### Fins and Feathers Boat Excursion



8-10am | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

See description on page 5. Limit 12. \$70 ea.

#### Beaks and Bills Boat Tour



Two options: 8-11am, or 1-4pm Harbor Ramp 3, M/V Seabird Led by Seabird Ventures (Lindsey/Davey)

See description on page 5. Limit 12. \$75 ea. (\$50 under 12yo).

#### Coldwater, Hot Birds 🕮



8–11am | Harbor, bottom of Ramp 3, M/V Granite Cape Led by ColdWater and Aaron Lang See description on page 8. Limit 6. \$75 ea.

#### Upper Kachemak Bay Wildlife Tour



8am-12:30pm | Homer Harbor, Slip E1, M/V Rainbow Connections Led by Rainbow Tours

Join us for a trip to the rich shorebird feeding area near the Fox, Sheep and Bradley Rivers. Explore the head of Kachemak Bay, with a visit to Bear Cove, Aurora Lagoon, Glacier Spit, and a stop at the Gull Island bird rookery. Continental breakfast included. Enclosed boat with open back access; has facilities. Limit 40. \$69 ea. (\$45 under 12yo).

#### Cold Duck Time 🏶



8:30-11am | Harbor Ramp 2 Boat House Pavilion Led by Mako's Water Taxi

See description on page 5. Limit 18. \$75 ea.

#### Flow with the Birds: Half Day Kayak Tour



Two options: Check-in at 8:30am, 9am-1pm, or Check-in at 12:30pm, 1-5pm Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, located at the top of Ramp 2, M/V Billy Hawk Led by St. Augustine's Kayak Tour (Alan Parks)

See description on page 5. Limit 12. \$95 ea.

#### Observing Diving Alcids with ROV Technology



9am-12pm | Harbor Ramp 2, M/V Orca Led by Curt Jackson

#### See description on page 9. Limit 6. \$80 ea. (\$60 under 12yo).

#### Seabird Sidetrip 🎥

9am-12pm | Harbor Ramp 3, turn right at the bottom, M/V Torega Led by Bay Excursions

See description on page 6. Limit 12. \$75 ea. (\$45 under 12yo).

#### Birds and Tides Family Walk 🗪 🗟 🤡





9:30-11:30am | Bishop's Beach

Led by Center for Alaska Coastal Studies

Join a CACS Naturalist on a walk on the beach and learn how birds use the beaches to feed and rest! Binoculars will be available for use. \*This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder Requirements. Free, Registration REQUIRED.

#### Kayak with Birds and Wildlife



10am-2pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

See description on page 6. Limit 12. \$95 ea. (\$85 under 12yo).

#### Gulls and Glaciers 🏶



10am-4pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

#### See description on page 6. Limit 6. \$125 ea.



and Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake 🌋 Check-in: 10am, 10:30am-4pm | Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, M/V Billy Hawk Led by Alan's Water Taxi (Alan Parks)

**Guided Birding and Wildlife Tour** 

See description on page 6. Limit 6. \$90 ea.

#### Paint-Your-Own-Birdhouse Kit!



11am-2pm | Homer Council on the Arts

Led by Homer Council on the Arts

Join HCOA in welcoming our swallows home by painting a US Fish and Wildlife approved swallow house for them! We have kits available for you to take home, with everything you need to paint your own wooden swallow house. The kit includes a pre-assembled and primed swallow house, a paintbrush, several colors of acrylic paint, and an information sheet about swallows to help you decide where to hang your house. Limit 20. \$25 ea.



AP...... Anchor Point Beach Parking

AR...... Anchor River State Rec. Area BB...... Bishop's Beach

BHP ..... Boat House Pavilion

**BLL** ..... Beluga Lake Lodge

BLP..... Beluga Lake Platform

BT ...... Baycrest Trail

CCT ..... Calvin and Coyle Trail

CACS .... Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies (CACS)

CL ...... Cycle Logical

CSY ..... CACS Yurt

**GRB** ..... Grace Ridge Brewery

**H**...... Harbor (see detailed map)

HB ...... Homer Brewing Co.

**HC**...... Homer Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center

**HQ** ...... Festival Headquarters: Alaska Maritime NWR Visitor Center HS...... Homer High School/Mariner Theater

KBRR ... Kachemak Bay Research Reserve

LL....Louie's Lagoon

**LV** ...... Lighthouse Village (Shorebird Viewing Station)

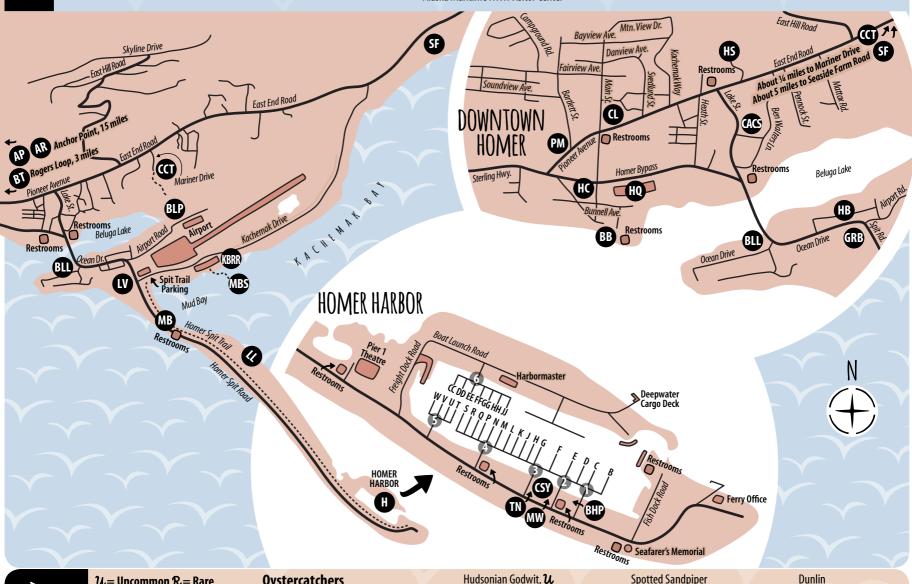
MB..... Mud Bay (Shorebird Viewing Station) MBS..... Mud Bay Spit

MW..... Mako's Water Taxi

PM ...... Pratt Museum

SF ...... Seaside Farms

TN ...... True North Kayak



 $\mathcal{U} = Uncommon \mathcal{R} = Rare$ 

**Plovers** 

Black-bellied Plover American Golden-Plover, U Pacific Golden-Plover, U Semipalmated Plover Killdeer, R

**Oystercatchers** 

Black Oystercatcher, U

Sandpipers and Phalaropes

**Greater Yellowlegs** 

Lesser Yellowlegs Wandering Tattler

Whimbrel Bristle-thighed Curlew, R Hudsonian Godwit, **U** Bar-tailed Godwit, U

Marbled Godwit, U

Ruddy Turnstone, **u** 

**Black Turnstone** Surfbird

Red Knot, **u** 

Sanderling,  ${oldsymbol u}$ Solitary Sandpiper, R \_Spotted Sandpiper Semipalmated Sandpiper

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, R

Stilt Sandpiper, R Western Sandpiper

Least Sandpiper

Baird's Sandpiper, **R** 

Pectoral Sandpiper Rock Sandpiper, **U**  Short-billed Dowitcher

Long-billed Dowitcher,  ${oldsymbol u}$ Wilson's Snipe

Red-necked Phalarope

Red Phalarope, R

Red-necked Stint, R Temminck's Stint, R

Ruff, R





## SHOREBIRD FESTIVAL Schedule

#### Please mask up and maintain social distancing at all festival events.



#### **Ongoing Events**

TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
Ongoing	<b>\$40</b>	Jr. Birder Virtual 3D Beginning Birder Lab	Virtual	Included
Ongoing	ಹಿ⊛ೆ⊗	Self Guided Bird Identification Family Trail Walks	Calvin & Coyle, Pratt, Beluga Slough	Included
Ongoing	<b>Φ₽</b>	I Spy Birds	Homer Area Businesses	Included

#### Wednesday, May 5

TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
Anytime!	$\otimes$	Self Guided Shorebird Viewing	Lighthouse Village	Included
10:45am-12pm	$\otimes$	Self Guided Shorebird Viewing	Mud Bay	Included
8:30am-3pm	*	Kachemak Bay Birding, Wildlife and Natural History Tour	H Ramp 6, EE-21, M/V Pinbone	\$175
3–5pm	<b>\$40</b>	Bird ID and 3D Virtual Trail Walk	Virtual	Included

#### Thursday, May 6

**Registration 12–4pm** > High tide: 12:23pm 15' Low tide: 6:24pm 2.7"

TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
Anytime!	$\otimes$	Self Guided Shorebird Viewing	Lighthouse Village	Included
7:30am-2:30pm		Lake Clark National Park Bear and Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Rec. Area, Launch	\$300
(7:30am check-in) 8—10am		The Wise and Wonderful Journey	H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House	\$85
8–10am		Fins and Feathers Boat Excursion	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office	\$70
8–11am		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour AM	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$75/\$50 kids
8:30–11am		Cold Duck Time	H Ramp 2, Boat House Pavilion	\$75
8:30am-3pm		Kachemak Bay Birding, Wildlife and Natural History Tour	H Ramp 6, EE-21, M/V Pinbone	\$175

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Thursday, continued:

TIME KEY EVENT TITLE LOCATION COST  (8:30am check-in) One Tem	
9am—1pm	
9—11am Cookies and Coffee and Songbird Walkabout Seaside Farm \$15/\$	10 kids
9am—12pm Seabird Sidetrip HRamp 3, M/V Torega \$75/\$	45 kids
10–11:30am 🙀 🗹 💙 Pre-K Puffins Virtual Session Virtual Includ	led
10am—2pm Kayak with Birds and Wildlife H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office \$95/\$	85 kids
10am—4pm Gulls and Glaciers H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office \$125	
(10am check-in) Guided Birding and Wildlife Tour H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House \$90 and Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake	
12—2pm Self Guided Shorebird Viewing Mud Bay Includ	led
(12:30pmcheck-in) Flow with the Birds: Half Day Kayak Tour PM H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House \$95	
1–3pm Arine Wildlife Tour H Ramp 3, M/V Torega \$65/\$	35 kids
1—4pm Beaks and Bills Boat Tour PM H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird \$75/\$	50 kids
1—5pm Kayaking and Archeology of Kachemak Bay H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office \$95/\$	85 kids
2—2:15pm	led
2:20—2:35pm	led
2:30—4:30pm Anchor River Bird Walk Anchor River State Rec. Area Includ	led
2:40—3pm	led
3–3:20pm	led
4—6pm Birds, Their Food, and Their Habitats: Virtual Lab Virtual Includ	led

#### Friday, May 7

#### 

TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
Anytime!	$\otimes$	Self Guided Shorebird Viewing	Lighthouse Village	Included
7am-5pm		Barren Islands Birding	H, E-2, M/V Jackpot	\$169
7:30–9am	<b>₹</b> 0	Intermediate/Advanced Songbird Walk	Baycrest Trail off Rogers Loop Rd.	\$7
7:30am—2:30pm		Lake Clark National Park Bear and Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Rec. Area, Launch	\$300
(7:30am check-in) 8—10am		The Wise and Wonderful Journey	H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House	\$85
8–10am		Fins and Feathers Boat Excursion	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office	\$70
8–11am		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour AM	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$75/\$50 kids
8–11am		Coldwater, Hot Birds	H Ramp 3, M/V Granite Cape	\$75
8:30-11am		Cold Duck Time	H Ramp 2, Boat House Pavilion	\$75











**Boat Tour** 



Entertainment





Virtual

#### Friday, continued:

TIME KEY EVENTTITLE LOCATION	COST
8:30am—3pm Kachemak Bay Birding, Wildlife H Ramp 6, EE-21, M.	/V Pinbone \$175
(8:30am check-in) 9am-1pm Flow with the Birds: Half Day Kayak Tour AM H Ramp 2, Meet at Bo	oat House \$95
9am—12pm	\$80/\$60 kids
9am—12pm Seabird Sidetrip H Ramp 3, M/V Toreg	ga \$75/\$45 kids
10–11:30am Pre-K Family Birding Walk Louie's Lagoon on the	he Homer Spit Included
10am—2pm 🔓 Kayak with Birds and Wildlife H Ramp 2, True North	h Kayak Office \$95/\$85 kids
10am—4pm Gulls and Glaciers H Ramp 2, True North	h Kayak Office \$125
(10am check-in) Guided Birding and Wildlife Tour 10:30am—4pm Guided Birding and Wildlife Tour and Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake  H Ramp 2, Meet at B	Boat House \$90
12:30–1:30pm 👛 🙋 🍑 Birdability Workshop Virtual with live Q&	A Included
(12:30pm check-in) 1–5pm Flow with the Birds: Half Day Kayak Tour PM HRamp 2, Meet at Bo	oat House \$95
1—2:30pm Intermediate/Advanced Shorebird Walk Trailhead by KBRR on K	(achemak Drive \$7
1—2:30pm Creatures of the Dock Tours CACS Yurt on the Spi	it \$10/\$5 kids
1—3pm Self Guided Shorebird Viewing Mud Bay	Included
1–3pm Shorebird Walk Mud Bay Parking Lo	ot \$7
1–3pm 🔓 Marine Wildlife Tour H Ramp 3, M/V Toreg	ga \$65/\$35 kids
1—4pm Beaks and Bills Boat Tour PM H Ramp 3, M/V Seab	<i>bird</i> \$75/\$50 kids
1—5pm Rayaking and Archeology of Kachemak Bay <i>H Ramp 2, True North</i>	h Kayak Office \$95/\$85 kids
1-5pm Rayaking and Archeology of Nachemak Day 11 mainp 2, true North	
2—2:15pm Shorebird Science: The Cuddly Killer Virtual with realtime	ne Q&A Included

#### Saturday, May 8

#### **Registration 8am−12pm & 3−6pm** → High tide: 1:58pm 16.9′ | Low tide: 7:45am 1.3′

TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
Anytime!	$\otimes$	Self Guided Shorebird Viewing	Lighthouse Village	Included
7am-5pm		Barren Islands Birding	H E2, M/V Jackpot	\$169
7:30am-2:30pm		Lake Clark National Park Bear and Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Rec. Area, Launch	i \$300
(7:30am check-in) 8–10am		The Wise and Wonderful Journey	H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House	\$85
8–10am		Fins and Feathers Boat Excursion	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office	\$70
8–11am		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour AM	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$75/\$50 kids
8–11am		Coldwater, Hot Birds	H Ramp 3, M/V Granite Cape	\$75
8am-12:30pm		Upper Kachemak Bay Wildlife Tour	H E1, M/V Rainbow Connections	\$69/\$45 kids

#### Saturday, continued:

TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
8:30-11am		Cold Duck Time	H Ramp 2, Boat House Pavilion	\$75
(8:30am check-in) 9am—1pm		Flow with the Birds: Half Day Kayak Tour AM	H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House	\$95
9am—12pm		Observing Diving Alcids with ROV Technology	H Ramp 2, M/V Orca	\$80/\$60 kid
9am—12pm		Seabird Sidetrip	H Ramp 3, M/V Torega	\$75/\$45 kid
9:30-11:30am	⇜ੴ	Birds and Tides Family Walk	Bishop's Beach	Included
10am-2pm		Kayak with Birds and Wildlife	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office	\$95/\$85 kid
10am-4pm		Gulls and Glaciers	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office	\$125
(10am check-in) 10:30am—4pm		Guided Birding and Wildlife Tour and Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake	H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House	\$90
11am-2pm		Paint- Your-Own-Birdhouse Kit!	Homer Council on the Arts	\$25
12-2pm	<b>R</b> Ø	Bird Drawing	Homer Shores Boardwalk	Included
12-2pm	$   \mathbf{A} \mathbf{S} $	Key Kids! Connect with Nature, Create with Nature	Homer Shores Boardwalk	Included
(12:30pmcheck-in) 1—5pm		Flow with the Birds: Half Day Kayak Tour AM	H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House	\$95

Event schedule continued on next page...

## Birding and Bear Viewing in Chinitna Bay Lake Clark National Park



Join us for a 40 mile ride across Cook Inlet's remote west side to Chinitna Bay surrounded by towering mountain peaks, stunning geologic features, and glaciers aboard our 30' aluminum boat the Gamefisher. We visit a rocky outcropping in the bay with nesting puffins, oystercatchers, pigeon guillemots, see shorebirds, falcons, waterfowl, all 3 species of scoters, loons, cormorants, and Common Eiders.

Brown bears abound in the bay and can be seen along the shoreline and in a huge grassy meadow. Trip is available all 4 days of the shorebird festival but also by private charter before or after the event.

Contact Mel Erickson - owner/captain to book a trip independent of the festival.

A local birder will be aboard as crew.

907-398-1744, Email: gamefish@alaska.net, website: www.alaskangamefisher.com www.bearviewinginalaska.com

SHOREB	IRD FEST	IVAL Schedule 🖫	Saturday, continu	ed:
TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
1-1:50pm	<b>▲ Ø Ø</b>	Nature Can Heal: My Big Year	Prerecorded Virtual	Included
1-2:30pm	<b>4 4</b>	VIRTUAL Live Bird Presentation	Virtual with live Q&A	\$8
1-2:30pm	00	Creatures of the Dock Tours	CACS Yurt on the Spit	\$10/\$5 kids/ free under 2
1–3pm		Marine Wildlife Tour	H Ramp 3, M/V Torega	\$65/\$35 kids
1–4pm		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour PM	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$75/\$50 kids
1–5pm		Eiders and Otters	HE1, M/V Rainbow Connections	\$60/\$30 kids

A	IVI	HOMER	NEWS Special Edition	N	/1ay 202 I
	TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
	1-5pm		Kayaking and Archeology of Kachemak Bay	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office	\$95/\$85 kids
	2:15-4:15pm	Ø	Self-Guided Shorebird Viewing	Mud Bay	Included
	3-5pm	<b>\$</b> @ <b>Ø</b>	Art of Tattoing Birds for Families	Virtual	Included
	3-5pm	∞⊗	Intermediate Shorebird Walk	Meet at Mud Bay Parking Lot	Included
	5-8pm	<b>₹</b> 0	Birding by Fat Bike	302 W. Pioneer Ave.	\$150
	5:30-6:30pm	<b>♣ Ø Ø</b>	Keynote Address: Paul Bannick - Snowy Owl: A Visual Natural History	Virtual with realtime Q&A	Included
	7pm	₹ @ <b>⊗</b>	The Birds by Aristophanes	Virtual	Included
	7:30-8:30pm	<b>♣</b> ∅	Keynote: Eli Knapp - The Delightful Horror of Beautiful Birds	Virtual with live Q&A	Included





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XTRATUF

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## HOMER THEATRE

#### **OPENING NIGHT!** Thursday, May 6th at 6:00pm

The highly acclaimed & visually stunning 2001 Documentary

#### WINGED MIGRATION

This documentary presents an epic portrait of winter bird migration. Filmed on all seven continents over four years, the footage is brought together into one portrait of a journey that's uniformly arduous for all kinds of different birds. This near wordless film portrays the sheer physical effort demanded of the birds on their disparate routes across the hemispheres.

Purchase tickets at www.homertheatre.com



GoPro

#### Sunday, May 9

Juliudy, May J					
Registration 8am−12pm → High tide: 2:35pm 17.5′\Low tide: 8:22pm 2.2′					
TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST	
Anytime	$\otimes$	Self Guided Shorebird Viewing	Lighthouse Village	Included	
6:30-8am	<b>₹</b>	Songbirding By Ear in the Field	Karen Hornaday Park	\$7	
7:30am–2:30pm		Lake Clark National Park Bear and Bird Viewing	Anchor River State Rec. Area, Launch	\$300	
(7:30am check-in) 8–10am		The Wise and Wonderful Journey	H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House	\$85	
8–10am		Fins and Feathers Boat Excursion	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office	\$70	
8-11am		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour AM	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$75/\$50 kids	
(8:30am check-in) 9am—1pm		Flow with the Birds: Half Day Kayak Tour AM	H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House	\$95	
9–11am	<b>∞</b> Ø	Anchor River Bird Walk	Anchor River Halibut Parking Area	Included	
9–11am	?	Cookies and Coffee and Songbird Walkabout	Seaside Farm	\$15/\$10 kids	
9am-12pm		Observing Diving Alcids with ROV Technology	H Ramp 2, M/V Orca	\$80/\$60 kids	

TIME	KEY	EVENT TITLE	LOCATION	COST
9am—12pm		Seabird Sidetrip	H Ramp 3, M/V Torega	\$75/\$45 kids
10am-2pm		Kayak with Birds and Wildlife	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office	\$95/\$85
10am-4pm		Gulls and Glaciers	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office	\$125
(10am check-in) 10:30am—4pm		Guided Birding and Wildlife Tour and Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake	H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House	\$90
12-12:30pm	$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{Q}$	Virtual Jr. Birder Awards Ceremony	Virtual	Included
(12:30pmcheck-in) 1—5pm		Flow with the Birds: Half Day Kayak Tour PM	H Ramp 2, Meet at Boat House	\$95
1–2:30pm	<b>₹</b>	Creatures of the Dock Tours	CACS Yurt on the Spit	\$10/\$5 kids/ free under 2
1–3pm		Marine Wildlife Tour	H Ramp 3, M/V Torega	\$65/\$35 kids
1-4pm		Beaks and Bills Boat Tour PM	H Ramp 3, M/V Seabird	\$75/\$50 kids
1-5pm		Kayaking and Archeology of Kachemak Bay	H Ramp 2, True North Kayak Office	\$95/\$85
3:30-5pm	$\otimes$	Self Guided Shorebird Viewing	Mud Bay	Included



#### ALASKA

#### Audubon Alaska is a proud sponsor of the Kachemak **Bay Shorebird Festival**

From the icy, bountiful waters of the Arctic Ocean to the misty, salmon-rich rain forests of the Tongass National Forest, Audubon Alaska works to conserve Alaska's spectacular birds and wildlife – and their habitats — to ensure their place for future generations. We employ science and state-of-the-art mapping technology to drive our conservation priorities, with an emphasis on public lands and waters.

We work to end old-growth clearcut logging in the rare temperate rain forest of the Tongass National Forest in Southeast Alaska, prevent oil and gas drilling in the most sensitive ecological areas in the Arctic, and protect areas in Alaska with globally significant concentrations of birds.

Audubon Alaska is a state office of the National Audubon Society.

Learn more at AudubonAlaska.org and follow us on Facebook, Twitter (@audubonalaska1), and Instagram (@audubonalaska).



Bird Drawing 12–2pm | Homer Shores Boardwalk Led by Exotic Eye Tattoo

Join the very talented tattoo artist, Rachel G, on the Homer Shores Boardwalk for artistic bird fun. Activities will include basic bird identification and instruction on how to draw local bird species from the tattoo artist herself. \*This event fulfills one of the Junior Birder requirements.

#### Hey Kids! Connect with Nature, Create with Nature 12–2pm | Homer Shores Boardwalk

Led by Crisi Matthews

Shops on the Boardwalk will supply materials, you'll leave with smiles Activities include: Bubble Station, Rock Painting, Boardwalk Games, Bird Beach Bingo and Chalk Art!

#### Nature Can Heal: My Big Year 📤 🗳 🛇



1-1:50pm | Prerecorded Virtual

Led by Joe Blanda

Joe Blanda did a "big year" in 2016 to raise money for cancer research after the death of his son to Glioblastoma brain cancer. Joe is also a bird photographer who will share some of his exciting bird sightings both with photographs and some captivating stories. You will learn how he used his passion for nature and birding not only to heal from his loss but also to discover a new desire to help others.

#### VIRTUAL Live Bird Presentation 📤 ⊈



1-2:30pm | Virtual with Q&A

Led by Bird TLC

Don't miss this festival favorite. A unique opportunity to get the entire family up close and personal with live birds. Presenters from Anchorage's Bird Treatment and Learning Center will introduce 2-3 different wild birds and discuss their individual histories and natural behaviors. \$8 ea.

#### SATURDAY, MAY XTH

#### Creatures of the Dock Tours 🍑

1–2:30pm | CACS Yurt on the Spit, nearest GPS address 4350 Homer Spit Road Led by Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies

See description on page 9. Limit 20. \$10 ea. (\$5 under 12yo, free under 2yo).

#### Marine Wildlife Tour

1-3pm | Harbor Ramp 3, turn right at the bottom, M/V Torega Led by Bay Excursions

See description on page 6. Limit 12. \$65 (\$35 under 12yo).

#### Eiders and Otters

1-5pm | Homer Harbor, Slip E1, M/V Rainbow Connections Led by Rainbow Tours

Common, Steller's and king Eiders winter off the high bluffs of Homer. The elusive king eider is our target, along with several other seabird species and lots of otters. Come help us find the King! Enclosed boat with open back access; has facilities. Limit 40. \$60 ea. (\$30 under 12yo).

#### Kayaking and Archeology of Kachemak Bay



1-5pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

See description on page 7. Limit 12. \$95 ea. (\$85 under 12yo).

#### Self Guided Shorebird Viewing, Mud Bay 2:15-4:15pm | Mud Bay

See description on page 4.

#### Art of Tattooing Birds for Families 🗟 🗹 🍑 3-5pm | Virtual



Led by Peter Degraffenried and Ranger Kendra Bush, FWS

Join Ranger Kendra with the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge along with one of Homer's very talented tattoo artists, Peter Degraffenried, for this family friendly virtual workshop based on the art of tattooing birds. Participants will get the opportunity to try sketching their very own bird tattoo and then get it made into a temporary tattoo. For ages 5+. Limit 35.

#### SATURDAY, MAY 8th and SUNDAY, MAY 9th

#### Intermediate Shorebird Walk 🥶 🔇

3-5pm | Meet at Mud Bay Parking Lot

Led by Aaron Lang and Dave Erickson

Meet at Lighthouse village for a birding walk focused on watching migratory birds on the mudflats. Waterproof boots recommended. Limit 10.

#### Birding by Fat Bike 💏

5-8pm | 302 W. Pioneer Ave. | Led by Cyclelogical See description on page 10. Limit 8. \$150 ea.

#### **Keynote Address: Paul Bannick -**Snowy Owl: A Visual Natural History 📤 🗹 🍑

5:30 – 6:30pm | Virtual with realtime Q&A

Led by Paul Bannick

The Snowy Owl--also known as the Arctic Owl, Snowy White Owl, and White Owl, a denizen of the Arctic tundra, is one of the most easily identified but least understood owls in the world."Award-winning author and photographer Paul Bannick delves into the natural history of these owl species, including the latest research, providing readers with comprehensive yet intimate looks at their preferred habitat, hunting and feeding behavior, mating and nesting actions, owlets and fledglings, and more. Bannick's unique and gorgeous owl images are enhanced by additional images of the owls' habitats and other species that share the Snowy and Great Gray ecosystems. Throughout each narrative, his time in the field observing and photographing these enigmatic birds comes to life in evocative, images and stories."

#### The Birds by Aristophanes, Translated by David Barrett, A Short Excerpt 💃 🗷 🏈

7pm | Virtual

Your Local Independent Bookstore 332 E. Pioneer Ave. • 235-7496

**CALL OR CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR CURRENT HOURS** 

Led by Pier One Theatre

This short film joins the Greek Chorus of the Birds as they "explain the nature of birds, the birth of the gods, the genealogy of the rivers. the origin of Erebus and Chaos." - Directed by Jennifer Norton

#### Keynote Address: The Delightful Horror of Beautiful Birds

7:30-8:30pm | Virtual with live Q&A Led by Eli Knapp

As his book title, The Delightful Horror of Beautiful Birds suggests, birding with the whole family isn't always a walk in the park. Especially when that park is in Tanzania or Ecuador. Join Eli Knapp for a look at what makes it all worthwhile: the sheer beauty of the birds! But why are they so dazzling? It's a complicated story involving some really smart folks you've heard of, a few you haven't, and—spoiler alert—a lot of sex. Come discover why your favorite species are simple narcissists, obsessed with their outfits, willing to do anything to impress. You'll also discover that while birds are busy impressing each other, they'll impress your whole family, too.





#### Self Guided Shorebird Viewing, Lighthouse Village **③**

Drop in anytime (not tide dependent) | Lighthouse Village

See description on page 4.

#### **Songbirding by Ear** in the Field 🕉

6:30-8am | Karen Hornaday Park Led by Dave Erickson and Rich Kleinleder

Join local experts and Kachemak Bay Birders members Dale Chorman and Rich Kleinleder for a morning of listening. We'll learn and practice our birding by ear skills with whatever flies in to this unique forest and field birding hot spot. To find Karen Hornaday Park, drive up Bartlett St, left on Fairview Ave, park is on the right. Limit 10.\$7 ea.

#### **Lake Clark National Park** Bear and Bird Viewing

7:30am-2:30pm | Anchor River State Rec Area, Lake Tractor Launch Led by Alaskan Gamefisher (Mel Erickson) See description on page 5. Limit 6. \$300 ea.

### REFUGE FRIENDS



**FRIENDS OF** 

NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the stewardship of all 16 of Alaska's unique **National Wildlife Refuges** through education, support, and advocacy.

This year marks the Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuge's sixth year partnering with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to bring you the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival.

Support Alaska's Refuges and the Shorebird Festival by purchasing a Friends membership with vour Festival event tickets.

To learn about the exciting ways to get involved firsthand through education, service and advocacy, visit alaskarefugefriends.org and facebook.com/alaskarefugefriends.

#### The Wise and Wonderful Journey

Check-in: 7:30am, 8-10am | Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, located at the top of Ramp 2 M/V Billy Hawk Led by Alan's Water Taxi (Alan Parks)

See description on page 5. Limit 6. \$85 ea.

#### Fins and Feathers Boat Excursion

8-10am | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

See description on page 5. Limit 12. \$70 ea.

#### Beaks and Bills Boat Tour

Two options: 8-11am, or 1-4pm Harbor Ramp 3, M/V Seabird

Led by Seabird Ventures (Lindsey/Davey)

See description on page 5. Limit 12. \$75 ea. (\$50 under 12yo).

#### Flow with the Birds: Half Day Kayak Tour

Two options: Check-in at 8:30am, 9am-1pm, or Check-in: 12:30pm, 1-5pm

Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, located at the top of Ramp 2, M/V Billy Hawk Led by St. Augustine's Kayak Tour (Alan Parks)

See description on page 5. Limit 12.\$95 ea.

#### Anchor River Bird Walk 🗢 🗹

9–11am | Anchor river Halibut parking area (on the left) Led by Aaron Lang

See description on page 7. Limit 10.

#### **Cookies and Coffee and** Songbird Walkabout 🗳

9-11am | Seaside Farm

Led by Mossy Kilcher

See description on page 6. Limit 30. \$15 ea. (\$10 under 12yo).

#### Observing Diving Alcids with ROV Technology 🚟

9am-12pm | Harbor Ramp 2, M/V Orca

Led by Curt Jackson

See description on page 9. Limit 6. \$80 ea. (\$60 under 12yo).

#### Seabird Sidetrip

9am-12pm | Harbor Ramp 3, turn right at the bottom, M/V Torega Led by Bay Excursions

See description on page 6. Limit 12. \$75 ea. (\$45 under 12yo).

#### Kayak with Birds and Wildlife

10am-2pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

See description on page 6. Limit 12. \$95 ea. (\$85 under 12yo).

#### Gulls and Glaciers

10am-4pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures See description on page 6. Limit 6. \$125 ea.

#### Guided Birding and Wildlife Tour and Hike to Grewingk Glacier Lake

Check-in: 10am, 10:30am-4pm | Meet at the Boat House in the Homer harbor, M/V Billy Hawk Led by Alan's Water Taxi (Alan Parks) See description on page 6. Limit 6. \$90 ea.

#### **Virtual Jr. Birder Awards Ceremony**

12-12:30pm | Virtual

Led by Kendra Bush and Beth Trowbridge

Junior Birder Badge Awards. Kids who have completed all of their badge requirements during the Festival will be presented patches and awards for their achievements. Junior Birders will have the opportunity to share pictures and drawings of their birding adventures from throughout the Festival. Everyone, hop online and show your support for these future birders!

#### Creatures of the Dock Tours 🍎

1–2:30pm | CACS Yurt on the Spit, nearest GPS address 4350 Homer Spit Road Led by Center for Alaska Coastal Studies See description on page 9. Limit 20. \$10 ea. (\$5 under 12yo, free under 2yo).

#### Marine Wildlife Tour

1–3pm | Harbor Ramp 3, turn right at the bottom, M/V Torega Led by Bay Excursions

See description on page 6. Limit 12. \$65 ea. (\$35 under 12yo).

#### Kayaking and Archeology of Kachemak Bay 🕌

1–5pm | Harbor Ramp 2, True North Kayak Adventures Office Led by True North Kayak Adventures

See description on page 7. Limit 12. \$95 (\$85 under 12yo).

#### Self Guided Shorebird Viewing, Mud Bay

3:30-5pm | Mud Bay

See description on page 4.



## JUNIOR BIRDER PROGRAM



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## FOR KIDS AGES 5-15

The Junior Birder program gets youth and families outside to learn birding basics. Attend family-friendly festival events and complete a personal birding journal. New Junior Birders can earn their badge while returning Junior birders can pick up their journals and activity packets from The Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies in Homer. Activity packets, event schedules and requirement checklists can also be downloaded or printed from the Junior Birder website below.

Look for this icon for Junior Birder events!

Some of this year's Junior Birder activities include, but are not limited to:

- Virtual Junior Birder Discovery Lab
- Self Guided Family Bird Search Walks on Local Trails
- Virtual Pre-K Puffins All About Shorebids!
- Birds and Tides Family Walks
- Birds, Their Food and Their Habitat Virtual Lab
- Design Your Own Bird Temporary Tattoo Virtual Workshop
- Paint-Your-Own-Birdhouse Kit

Go to our website for information about Junior Birder requirements: kachemakbayshorebird.org/JuniorBirder

#### **Virtual Junior Birder Award Ceremony** Sunday, May 9, 12-12:30pm | Virtual

There will be opportunities to share pictures and drawings of Junior Birders adventures!

#### I Spy Birds

#### **Ongoing | Homer Area Businesses**

All week long play a fun game of I Spy when in Homer at area businesses. Homer Parks and Recreation have helped put together an I Spy Birds where local businesses will have stuffed animal birds in their windows. When you spot one you can go take a picture and post it using #KbayShorebird2021. You can also use your Flat Stanley Bird found in the Junior Birders Packet or on the Junior Birders website and take a picture with it too! This is free and for all ages to enjoy.

Sponsored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, Kachemak Bay Research Reserve and UAA.





## FEATURED ARTIST



#### **Oceana Wills**

Oceana Wills was born and raised in Homer, Alaska. She has been passionate about making art from an early age; as a child she sold pencil drawings of aquatic life and mer-mice for twenty-five cents in her father's bookshop. She studied English Literature in college and took drawing classes, but it wasn't until after she was back in Alaska that her interest turned to painting.

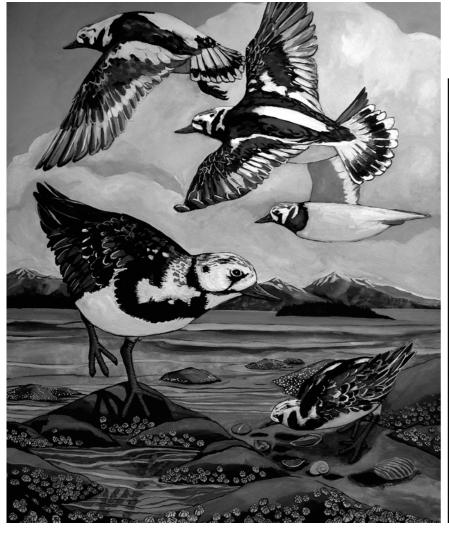
Now she spends her winters making art and sometimes traveling. In the summer she commercial salmon fishes in Bristol Bay, work that has inspired her paintings of women in the fishing industry. More recently she has focused her artwork on her relationship with nature and the landscape, leaning into what winter and relative isolation can inspire. She works mainly in gouache on paper or claybord (a smooth archival surface) and loves playing with color. She paints from her imagination as well as from life and photographs. The opportunity to make art for the Shorebird Festival has led her to look closer at familiar landscapes and has made her more curious about the birds that live here or migrate to this place.

To see more of her work, visit *oceanawills.com*. Find her on Instagram @oceana.wills.



**Welcome Reception** Friday, May 7, 5:30-7pm Homer Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center Lawn







# Mare to Da INHOMER

## BIRDS and ART

## Homer's Pier One Theatre Presentation: The Birds by Aristophanes, translated by David Barrett, A Short Excerpt

Saturday, May 8 at 7pm | Virtual Led by Pier One Theatre

This short film joins the Greek Chorus of the Birds as they "explain the nature of birds, the birth of the gods, the genealogy of the rivers, the origin of Erebus and Chaos." —Directed by Jennifer Norton



#### Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival Artist Show

April 30—May 10, 2021, including Festival weekend

Check out the Art & Adventure Auction at The Bagel Shop, 3745 East End Rd.

## Featured FILM



#### **Winged Migration Film**

Thursday, May 6, 6–8pm Homer Theatre

This 2001 documentary presents an epic portrait of winter bird migration. Filmed on all seven continents over four years, the footage is brought together into one portrait of a journey that's uniformly arduous for all kinds of different birds. Rather than concentrating on statistics and facts, the film near-wordlessly portrays the sheer physical effort demanded of the birds on their disparate routes across the hemispheres. Limit 100. \$9 ea. (\$7 seniors, under 14yo, and military). Pay onsite.

Bird HOUSE, Bird FEED



#### Wagon Wheel Garden and Pet

1506 Ocean Drive | akwagonwheel.com

Providing plant and garden supplies for South Peninsula gardeners since the 1970s. Mention the Shorebird Festival and get 10% off wild bird feed and feeders during the Shorebird Festival only.



Please mask up and maintain social distancing at all festival events.



## MANY THANKS TO OUR Crane Club FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

The Friends of Alaska National Wildlife Refuges and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would like to recognize and thank our many generous supporters who make the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival possible.

Visit kachemakshorebird.org/crane-club for a complete list of the sponsors and to find out how you can be involved!

#### Bar-Tailed Godwit \$2500+

World Wildlife Fund **Homer News** 

#### Pacific Golden Plauer \$1000+

Audubon Alaska Cook Inletkeeper **Homer Chamber of Commerce Homer Stay and Play** Land's End Resort Wilderness Birding Adventures

#### Sandhill Crane \$500+

**Bay Excursions** Camp Denali Homer Bed and Breakfast Association Ulmer's

#### Black Oystercatcher \$100+

**Bear Creek Winery Brome Bird Care** Captain's Toy Chest Carla and Wayne Stanley **Grace Ridge Brewing Homer Brewing Company Homer Truffle Company KBBI** 

True North Kayak

#### Dunlin \$50+

Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park

#### Wandering Tattlers \$25+

**Homer Senior Citizens** Seldovia Nature Tours



**Become a member! Donate** online at kachemakshorebird.



## Haw to REGISTER

#### What's WHOVA?

This year, we'll be using an event app to manage registration, ticketing, and to access virtual presentations.

From the Shorebird Festival WHOVA app event site you'll be able to:

- Register for this year's Festival beginning Monday, March 15
- View the schedule and create your own agenda
- See confirmation information for ticketed events
- Access events during the Festival AND for a full month following! You can watch at your convenience and review what you learned and enjoyed.

Need help? Just let us know: email kachemakshorebird@gmail.com or call (907)226-4631.

#### **Important Notes**

All Festival Participants will comply with current COVID-19 Protocols.

To make this year's Festival accessible for all safely, we will be using a great app, WHOVA. Go ahead and download it today; you will then have access to online registration and participation in our Keynote Speakers, Workshops, Science Talks, Labs, Junior Birder activities and MORE, all safely from wherever you are joining us. If you are not using the WHOVA app, pick up registration badges at Festival Headquarters.

#### How to Register

Registration will open Monday, March 15

How to register:

- 1. Direct link to register online: kachemakshorebird.org/register
- Register by phone Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12–4pm by calling (907) 226-4631. If we don't pick up, please leave a message. If you call outside these hours, your call will be returned during the next office hours.
- 3. Register onsite May 3–9. Onsite registration hours:
  - Monday/Tuesday/Thursday: 12–4pm
  - Wednesday: 12–5pm
  - Friday/Saturday: 8am-12pm and 3-6pm
  - Sunday:8am-12pm

#### **Registration Fees:**

\$20 Registration: Includes science talks, Junior Birder

and other events that don't have an additional fee

 \$10 Keynote Pass: Individual ticket fees for field events and workshops as set by Tour Operator/Guide

#### **Festival Registration**

Festival Registration permits entry into events listed with the "included with registration" icon. Registration allows participants to purchase/reserve tickets for events with limited space and/or an additional fee. Participants may be asked to show their 2021 Festival Registration Badge or QR code for paid activities. The one-time Festival Registration fee is \$20. Participants may add up to four family members to their Festival Registration for an additional \$5 per person.

Contact the Festival Coordinator at *kachemakshorebird@gmail.org* for further information

#### **Refund/Exchange Policy**

In an effort to be fair to both our participants and event sponsors, our updated *Refund and Exchange Policy* is:

- No refunds will be given for Registration or Processing Fees at any time.
- Refunds and exchanges on event ticket sales made before April 7,4:30pm receive a full refund less a 10% refund fee.
- Refunds and exchanges on event tickets sales made between April 8 and April 22, 4:30pm receive a 50% refund.
- No refunds after April 22—two weeks prior to the Festival.
- If an event is cancelled by the Festival due to high seas or other unforeseeable circumstances, participants will receive a full refund of event ticket costs.
- Even exchanges may be issued where space permits until Tuesday, May 4.

# Join Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park for our annual Friendship Walk

Sunday, May 9th I lam-4pm

**BOAT HOUSE PAVILION** 

Come with the Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park for a cruise across the Bay, breaking for birds along the way and a hike guided by our favorite ornithologist.

sponsors

Trail Day, Friendship Beach
Walk, & Water Trail
and supports the
Volunteer Trail Crew





www.friendsofkachemakbay.org Like us on FB

## ABOUT OUR Speakers, Presenters, and Guides

**Joe Blanda** is an orthopedic surgeon from Akron, Ohio, who has been a birder since getting sparked in 1988. He is an active environmentalist and nature photographer and most recently has started, Nature Can Heal, a local movement to have physicians encourage patients to get outdoors.

Casey Burns is the Wildlife Management and Threatened and Endangered Species Program Lead for the US Department of the Interior-Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Alaska. He serves as the US representative on the Arctic Council-Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) Terrestrial Steering Group and on the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership Technical Committee and Outreach Committee.

**Catie Bursch** is an Alaskan commercial fisherman and has worked as a marine educator and naturalist.

**Kendra Bush** is the Environmental Education Specialist for Alaska Maritime NWR, teaching students in grades pre-K through 12th. She is a member of the Shorebird Festival Planning Committee.

Dale Chorman is a lifelong birder who lives in Homer and has worked as a naturalist in Alaska for over 35 years.

**Steve Delehanty** is the Manager of the Alaska Maritime NWR.

**Courtney Dodge** has lived in Homer since 2016 and is a member of KHLT's stewardship team.

**Dave Erickson** is a professional biologist with over 40 years of experience birding in Homer. He compiles data for the annual Christmas Bird count in Homer, and has volunteered at the Festival since its beginning- at viewing stations, leading walks, and giving presentations.

Mossy Kilcher is an artist, photographer and avid birder and has lived in Homer her entire life. She enjoys filming and photographing birds and collectiang their songs. She is an active member of several bird organizations, and contributes material to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

**Dr. Rick Lanctot** has been the Alaska Shorebird Coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service since 2002. He has studied the breeding, migratory and wintering ecology of shorebirds for the past 31 years. He works primarily in Arctic Alaska but also along the migratory routes and wintering grounds within the Western Hemisphere and East Asia. He focuses on identifying, and when possible, reversing the decline of migratory birds.

**Aaron Lang** is the owner and Guide for Wilderness Birding Adventures, leading trips from Alaska's Wilderness and continental borders to some of the prime destinations for birders around the world.

**George Matz** is an avid birder and serves on the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve Community Council, Homer Fish and Game Advisory Committee, and Kachemak Bay Birders. He teaches a birding course at Kenai Peninsula College and organizes the Kachemak Bay Shorebird Monitoring Project each spring.

**Jasmine Maurer** is the Harmful Species Program Technician at Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. She grew up in Homer and pursued a masters in marine biology from Moss Landing

Marine Laboratories in CA before returning to Homer to work and play in lovely Kachemak Bay.

**Laura McDuffie** is a Master's student at the University of Alaska Anchorage and a wildlife biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Migratory Bird Program. Laura has been studying the breeding ecology of LesserYellowlegsas well as other boreal breeding shorebirds and passerines since 2016. A born and raised Alaskan Laura enjoys spending her free time cross-country skiing and adventuring in the mountains with her dog.

**Freya McGregor**, OTR/L, is the Birdability Coordinator and Occupational Therapist. Birding since childhood, her 'dodgy' knee often creates an accessibility challenge for her, and she is passionate about enabling all birders and potential future birders to enjoy birding and nature as much as she does.

Audrey Taylor is an associate professor in UAA's Department of Biological Sciences and has worked on shorebird monitoring/researching projects since 2003.

**Beth Trowbridge** is the Executive Director for the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies and has been leading natural history and science education programs for youth and adults in Homer for over 13 years.

Brian Ulaski grew up in Pleasanton, CA (San Francisco Bay Area) and earned a B.S. in Aquatic Biology in 2014 from the University of California Santa Barbara. He is currently working on his doctorate in Marine Biology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Most of his grad work has been based in Kachemak Bay.



The Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival Committee would like to thank each and every one of our presenters for their energy and enthusiasm, and for sharing their vast wealth of knowledge during this year's Festival.





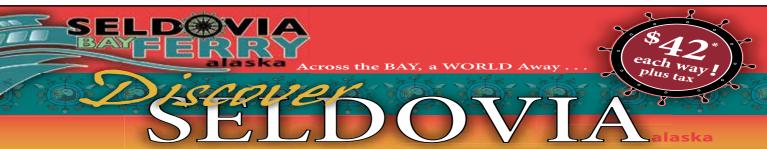






Photos by Michael Armstrong / Homer News

Clockwise from upper left, two sandhill cranes feed in Louie's Lagoon on the Homer Spit; a least sandpiper feeds in Louie's Lagoon; greater white-fronted geese fly over the Homer Spit, and a flock of sandpipers flies over Louie's Lagoon.



May 20 through September 12

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