



# WEEKENDER

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April 23, 2010

## Progress Continues on 306th Bridge Site

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Progress continues on the 306th Bridge Site, the dedication ceremony is scheduled for June 14th.



Picking out the light pole !



George Miller working on the sign!

Be sure and visit our web site  
at  
<http://www.surfsideonline.org/>

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## 100 DAYS OF COLOR PROGRESS



January 7, 2010 peeking thru.



April 15, 2010



April 23, 2010

## SPRING PLANTING EVENT!

Rachel Hana Master Gardener, W.S.U. will be presenting a vegetable container, and a herb container garden planting demonstration. This will be on Saturday, April 24, 2010 at the Surfside Office Grounds at 1:00 PM Rain or Shine!

For more information call Valerie at 665-0804 or Sheila at 665-2309



The picture above is of Janis Jenkin's planter that she won at last years planting demonstration "A 100 Days of Color" Plan on attending this years event for a chance to win a container garden!

See you Saturday, April 24th!

## ANNUAL SYSTEM FLUSHING

### **Surfside Water Department to test water flow and hydrants and begin annual System flushing beginning Monday March 29, 2010**

The Surfside Water Department continues with the annual flushing program will begin. The flushing will be done between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and will continue for approximately one month.

Customers may experience temporary low pressure and/or water discoloration during the flushing process. If these conditions continue after 3:30 p.m., call the Surfside Water Department at 665-4171 or 360-783-2426

## THANK YOU!

We wish to thank the Sabin Family for the donation of the marquee style sign. We will put it to good use!



## COMMUNITY EVENT

The Peninsula Association of Performing Artists will be presenting "Hello Dolly!" at Fort Columbia Theatre Four Weekends in May (May 7-May30) Fridays at 7:30 PM, Saturday and Sundays matinees at 3:00 PM Tickets are available at Okie's Thriftway in Ocean Park, Stormin' Norman's in Long Beach. Note tickets are available at the door based on availability. For more information call 360-665-3025 or 360-665-6530



## **GARAGE SALE**

**SURFSIDE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND  
GARAGE SALE  
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY MAY 28<sup>TH</sup> AND 29<sup>TH</sup>  
10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM EACH DAY  
Surfside Business Office  
31402 H Street**

The proceeds from this sale will be used for the purchase of shrubs and landscaping materials at the 306<sup>th</sup> Street bridge site. The beautiful brass plaque to honor our veterans has arrived and has been set in a concrete base next to the flag pole.

Donated garage sale items are needed and can be left with Nancy at the compactor.

### **Tentative Clam Digs Announced**

WDFW has tentatively scheduled a dig for the following dates and beaches:

- \* Tuesday April 27, 6:21 a.m., -1.0: Long Beach and Twin Harbors only
- \* Wednesday, April 28, 7:06 a.m., -1.4: Long Beach and Twin Harbors only
- \* Thursday, April 29, 7:50 a.m., -1.6: Long Beach and Twin Harbors only
- Friday, April 30, 8:32 a.m., -1.5: Long Beach, Twin Harbors, Copalis and Mocrocks
- \* Saturday May 1, 9:15 a.m., -1.0 : Long Beach, Twin Harbors, Copalis, Mocrocks and Kalaloch
- \* Sunday, May 2, 9:58 a.m., -0.7: Long Beach, Twin Harbors, Copalis, Mocrocks and Kalaloch



# GREAT BLUE HERON

The **Great Blue Heron** (*Ardea herodias*) is a large wading bird in the heron family Ardeidae, common near the shores of open water and in wetlands over most of North and Central America as well as the West Indies and the Galápagos Islands. It is a rare vagrant to Europe, with records from Spain, the Azores and England. An all-white population found only in the Caribbean and south Florida was once known as a separate species, the **Great White Heron**.

## Taxonomy

The Great Blue Heron was one of the many species originally described by Carolus Linnaeus in his 18th century work, *Systema Naturae*.

The Great Blue Heron is replaced in the Old World by the very similar Grey Heron, which differs in being somewhat smaller (90–98 cm), with a pale gray neck and legs, lacking the browner colors that Great Blue Heron has there. It forms a superspecies with this and also with the Cocoi Heron from South America, which differs in having more extensive black on the head, and a white breast and neck.

There are five subspecies:

- *Ardea herodias herodias* Linnaeus, 1758. Most of North America, except as below.
- *Ardea herodias fannini* Chapman, 1901. The Pacific Northwest from southern Alaska south to Washington; coastal.
- *Ardea herodias wardi* Ridgway, 1882. Kansas and Oklahoma to northern Florida.
- *Ardea herodias occidentalis* Audubon, 1835. Southern Florida, Caribbean islands. Formerly known as a separate species, the



GREAT BLUE HERON

## Description

### Great Blue Heron

It is the largest North American heron, with a head-to-tail length of 91–140 cm (36-55 in), a wingspan of 167-201 cm (66-79 in), and a weight of 2–3.6 kg (4.4-8 lbs). Notable features include slaty flight feathers, red-brown thighs, and a paired red-brown and black stripe up the flanks; the neck is rusty-gray, with black and white streaking down the front; the head is paler, with a nearly white face, and a pair of black plumes running from just above the eye to the back of the head. The feathers on the lower neck are long and plume-like; it also has plumes on the lower back at the start of the breeding season. The bill is dull yellowish, becoming orange briefly at the start of the breeding season, and the lower legs gray, also becoming orangey at the start of the breeding season. Immature birds are duller in color, with a dull blackish-gray crown, and the flank pattern only weakly defined; they have no plumes, and the bill is dull gray-yellow. The heron stride is around 22 cm (9 in), almost in a straight line. Two of the three front toes are generally closer together. In a track the front toes as well as the back often show the small talons.

The subspecies differ only slightly in size and plumage tone, with the exception of subspecies *occidentalis*, which as well as normal colored birds, also has a distinct white morph, known as the **Great White Heron** (not to be confused with the Great Egret, for which "Great White Heron" was once a common name). It is found only in south Florida and some parts of the Caribbean. The Great White Heron differs from other Great Blues in bill morphology, head plume length, and in having a total lack of pigment in its plumage. This is mainly found near salt water, and was long thought to be a separate species. Birds intermediate between the normal morph and the white morph are known as **Würdemann's Heron**; these birds resemble a "normal" Great Blue with a white head.

The theory that Great White Heron may be a separate species from Great Blue Heron has again been given some support by David Sibley.



### Distribution and habitat

The Great Blue Heron is found throughout most of North America, including Alaska, British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The range extends south through Florida, Mexico and the Caribbean to South America. Birds east of the Rocky Mountains in the northern part of their range are migratory and winter in Central America or northern South America. From the southern United States southwards, and on the Pacific coast, they are year-round residents. However their hardiness is such that individuals often remain through cold northern winters, as well.

It can be found in a range of habitats, in fresh and saltwater marshes, mangrove swamps, flooded meadows, lake edges, or shorelines, but always close to bodies of water, usually nesting in trees or bushes.

It has been recorded as a vagrant in England, Greenland, Hawaii, and the Azores.

### Behavior and Diet



Eating a small fish



Eating a Common Snapping Turtle  
(*Chelydra serpentina*) hatchling

The primary food for Great Blue Heron is small fish, though it is also known to opportunistically feed on a wide range of shrimps, crabs, aquatic insects, rodents, other small mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and small birds. Herons locate their food by sight and usually swallow it whole. Herons have been known to choke on prey that is too large. It is generally a solitary feeder. Individuals usually forage while standing in water, but will also feed in fields or drop from the air, or a perch, into water. As large wading birds, Great Blue Herons are able to feed in deeper waters, and thus are able to harvest from niche areas not open to most other heron species.

It feeds in shallow water or at the water's edge during both the night and the day, but especially around dawn and dusk. It uses its long legs to wade through shallow water, and spears fish or frogs with its long, sharp bill. It is also known to feed on fish in backyard garden ponds.



Eating a snake

## GREAT BLUE HERON

### Breeding



Colony



At the nest

This species usually breeds in colonies, in trees close to lakes or other wetlands. Often such colonies include only Great Blue Herons, sometimes they nest alongside other species of herons. These groups are called heronry (a more specific term than "rookery"). The size of these colonies may be large, ranging between 5–500 nests per colony, with an average of approximately 160 nests per colony.

Great Blue Herons build a bulky stick nest, and the female lays three to six pale blue eggs. One brood is raised each year. If the nest is abandoned or destroyed, the female may lay a replacement clutch. Reproduction is negatively affected by human disturbance, particularly during the beginning of nesting. Repeated human intrusion into nesting areas often results in nest failure, with abandonment of eggs or chicks.

Both parents feed the young at the nest by regurgitating food. Parent birds have been shown to consume up to four times as much food when they are feeding young chicks than when laying or incubating eggs.

Eggs are incubated for approximately 28 days and hatch asynchronously over a period of several days. The first chick to hatch usually becomes more experienced in food handling and aggressive interactions with siblings, and so often grows more quickly than the other chicks. Predators of eggs and nestlings include turkey vultures, several corvids, hawks, bears and raccoons, the latter two also potential predators of adults. Adult herons, due to their size, have few natural predators, but can be taken by bald eagles, great horned owls and, less frequently, red-tailed hawks. When predation on an adult or chick occurs at a breeding colony, the colony can be abandoned by the other birds, but this does not always occur.

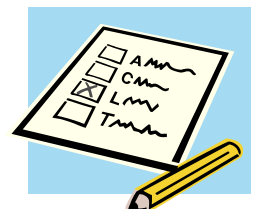
## Candidates for Board Positions Sought

**There are four Board Positions that will be open for election at the annual meeting in July. The three year positions that are open are now held by: *Grant Murrell, Jim Flood and Gary Williams. The one year position is now filled by George Miller. If you have an interest in serving your community, and helping to assure that Surfside is a great place to live, consider running for one of these open positions. Applications for the Board Positions need to be received by May 1, 2010.***

**The application packet for Board Positions is available at the Surfside Office.**

**Or**

**On the Surfside Web Site: <http://www.surfsideonline.org/>**



## APRIL 17, 2010 BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

1. A presentation was made to the Board by a representative from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and Pacific County Fire District #1 on the Firewise Program. A Community Assessment had been completed for Surfside and presented to the Board. This assessment outlines the ways in which we can create a wildfire safety action plan to protect homes within our community. The Board fully supports the implementation of the program. For more information on the program, please contact the Surfside Business Office.
  2. An update was provided by the GM on the adopted 2010 Board Goals. Several of the goals have been implemented and others in progress. More work is needed to finalize action of these goals over the next few months.
  3. Work continues on improvements to the Surfside Water Distribution System. The Potassium Permanganate Saturator has been put in service and will provide another option to water treatment along with our current chlorine use. It is anticipated that this process along with recent cleaning of all four water reservoirs and addition of three new filters will improve our water quality to meet all Department of Health (DOH) standards. It was also mentioned that we have physically disconnected the shallow wells (Oceanside/Bridgeside/Oysterville) and classified them with DOH as Emergency Use only. This was action was implemented as an operational action previously scheduled.
  4. There were a couple of suggested covenant changes brought forth at the meeting, one regarding the number of animals on residential lots and changes in the length of time RV's may be on lots. These proposed covenant changes will be presented to the membership at a public hearing at the July 10, 2010 Annual Membership Meeting. More details should be available within the next month.
  5. Approximately 2,000 Bass have been placed in the canal and Seabreeze Lake, 1,000 at each site.
  6. Several improvements have been made at the 306<sup>th</sup> Pedestrian Bridge site on I Street and beginning work on the H Street side. A new flag has been installed, a veterans memorial and landscape and parking area. A Veteran's Memorial Dedication will take place at the 306<sup>th</sup>/I Street site on June 14, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. Look for the event.
  7. Election of four new Board members will take place at the Annual Membership Meeting in July. The Nomination Committee will be interviewing potential candidates in May. The deadline for Board position applications is 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 1, 2010.
  8. The annual audit for 2009 has been completed. We should receive a draft of the audit within the next month. The Audit Committee will review the draft audit prior to it going to the Board in June. The final audit will then be presented to the membership at the annual meeting in July.
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# April 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
18 Clam Digging 9:56 AM	19	20 Architectural Committee Meeting 9:00 AM	21 Nominating Committee 10:00 AM	22 Staff Meeting 8:30 AM	23	24 Plant Demonstration 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM
25	26	27 Architectural Committee Meeting 9:00 AM Community Relations Float Meeting 1:00 PM	28	29	30	

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2	3	4 Architectural Committee Meeting 9:00 AM	5 RV Committee 9:00 AM Lands and Buildings 1:00PM	6 Nomination Committee 10:00 AM	7 Water/Field Services Committee Meeting 1:00 PM	8
9	10	11 Architectural Committee Meeting 9:00 AM  Bunco 6:30 PM	12	13	14 Nominating Committee noon to 5:00 PM	15 Board Meeting 9:00 AM