

Meet The Board!



Katie Price,
Secretary

Katie is a newcomer to Washington State. Prior to moving to Tacoma in January of 2004, she resided in Michigan. Katie has a Bachelors of Science with a Concentration in Community Development from Central Michigan University. While she is concerned about the environment, her primary purpose for joining the board was to bring the joy of nature to city dwellers and to help build community solidarity through voluntarism.

Katie Price
Secretary

PCRS Annual Meeting 2006

OK, I know what everyone wants to hear about – the creek, the boardwalk, the salmon and wildlife. That’s why you’re interested in PCRS, right? You have a concern for the environment, specifically urban wetland areas. That’s all fine and well, but did you know that we actually do some things *indoors*? Not all of us that volunteer for PCRS know the names of all the native plants or can differentiate between a Yellow-Bellied Tooter Dingy and a Golden-Crested Flipper Whatgit. Some of us don’t care to get dirt under our fingernails, and that’s OK. PCRS needs folks with other skills as well – organizational skills, motivational skills, stay-in-the-office-and-work-on-the-computer skills. If you are one of those people and you’ve been hiding in the closet for fear of being judged and ridiculed, now is the time for you to come out and shine! You have an opportunity to be involved in one of our biggest projects – the Annual Meeting.

According to our by-laws, we are required to hold an Annual Meeting every year (hence the name) to elect new officers when terms are up, update our members on what we’ve done throughout the year, make clear our plans for the coming year and beyond, get feedback from our members, and – here’s a big one – encourage new folks to become members. You might not think it, but there’s a lot to be done for an Annual Meeting. You also might not realize that people typically focused on wildlife restoration have a hard time getting excited about mailings, databases and networking. They can and will do it, but they don’t find it thrilling like those of us that are organizationally oriented.

So, if you find yourself asking, “Self, how could I do more to improve Tacoma’s ecology without getting grubby?” we’ve got lots for you to do. We are currently working to acquire edibles for our members and guests to snack on – free food always draws a crowd; we need assistance contacting the multitudes of people who will undoubtedly want to attend the Annual Meeting; we need to develop a schedule and create the power point presentation – all this before February 16th! What we really need is your help. If you’re up for it, please call the office at (253) 779-8890, e-mail us at pugetcreek@yahoo.com or stop by the office. We look forward to working with you!

Red Fox Fun Facts

The intelligence of the fox has been celebrated in literature since Aesop recorded his fables in 500 B.C. The fox often finds food easily by following the trail of an animal, such as a wolverine, that has made a food cache. An adult fox does not sleep in a den in the winter. It curls its comely tail around its nose to form a warm furry package. The fox may become covered by snow during a storm; perhaps some of the small, snowy hummocks you see in winter are actually sleeping foxes.

The front track of the fox is wide while the rear track is narrower. In some prints in snow, only a partial pad will show, making the heel and toe marks clearly separate. Red fox tracks could be mistaken for domestic dog tracks but for its eighteen-inch stride, somewhat longer than that of a similar-sized dog. A special feature to look for in identifying red fox tracks is the curved bar on the heel pad. - Scott Hansen, VP



Order: Carnivora. **Family:** Canidae (dogs)

Range: throughout the Pacific Northwest except the Olympic Peninsula or arid regions of eastern Washington and Oregon.

Habitat: woodlands and adjoining areas, especially mountainous areas near timberline.

Size: forty-four inches; eight pounds.

Diet: small mammals including marmots, chipmunks, squirrels, and hares, fruits, berries, grains, grasses, birds, reptiles, and amphibians.

Sounds: a variety of noises from barks to screams.

Meet The Board!

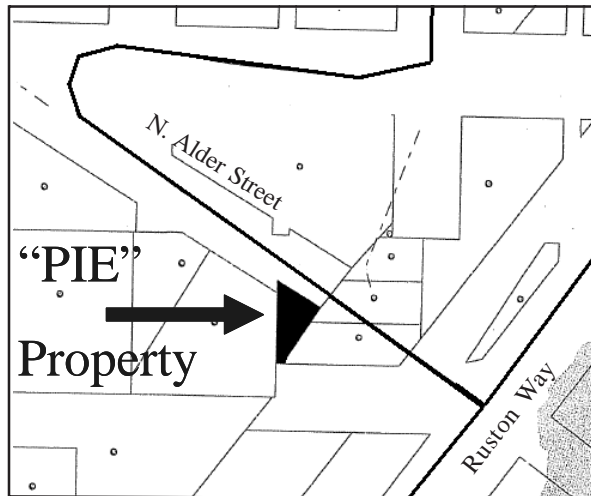


Eva Harrow,
Treasurer

Eva was introduced to Puget Creek as a troop leader of Girl Scouts interested in learning about restoration and protection of environments, specifically those involving salmon habitats. She has lived in Tacoma with her daughter, Hannah, for over ten years and has recently been admitted to practice law in Washington State. Eva plans on continuing to learn about the science involved with monitoring and restoring habitats and hopes to practice environmental law in the near future.

Salmon Habitat Pond

The “PIE” Property was recently donated to the City of Tacoma by Tacoma Public Utilities. The property is adjacent to Puget Creek along North Alder Way before the B&N Rail Road Bridge. PCRS has been working to acquire the property for 6 years with the intent to develop a salmon habitat pond. We are now working with the City of Tacoma Environment and Public Works committee along with other area land owners and hope to have the ponds in progress soon!



Hello!

Welcome to new members and welcome back for those renewing memberships! We're glad to have you all!

Steve Craig,
Dave McKeever,
Lynn DiNino,
Mike Lavery,
Puget Sound Fly Fishers,
Sean Peterson,
Timothy Allen & Jessica Spring,
Woons Healing Arts Center,
&
Comcast

Many Opportunities lie ahead!



William Roberson placing salmon carcasses in the stream. This adds vital nutrients to the habitat.

North Union Ave. & North 30th Street Project

Puget Creek Restoration Society is conducting a large scale planting project on the hillside in the vicinity of North 30th and North Union Ave. in conjunction with the City of Tacoma Public Works (Environmental Services Department). The City had to do some emergency and subsequent sewer line repairs to 330' section of the sewer line that ran down the hillside. This was completed in September 2005. The City asked PCRS if we would develop the planting plans and revegetate the hillside with native shrubs. We are currently planning the site, which is 16' wide at the bottom and 100' wide at the top and 330' long on a steep grade. We are planting with a variety of native shrubs such as: Oregon Grape, Salal, Beaked Hazelnut, Ocean Spray, Red Flowering Currant and Nootka Rose amongst about 12 other varieties. This planting has been accomplished through the help of numerous

Nootka Rose



Oregon Grape



volunteer groups and individuals. Part of the project will include monitoring and maintenance of the site with eradication of the invasive non-native Japanese knotweed through injection of AquaMaster to kill the plant. Our goal is to restore the Puget Creek Watershed to a more viable level working with numerous partners and this was a good opportunity to do so. So we hope to see you out there helping!

Flowering Red Currant

