

Central Sierra Audubon Society's
Sierra Squawker



June Program

Election Meeting and Potluck

Our general meeting in June will not take place at the county library, but instead will be held at the Jamestown Community Hall at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 19. We will elect the Board of Directors for the coming year, and more importantly, will enjoy a potluck dinner with any and all invited. We will also present checks to the two winners of the Edye Dingman Scholarship for this year. Please plan on joining in the fun and fellowship. The door will open at 5:30 for setup and food preparation. Bring your own place settings and a dish to share, along with your choice of beverages. I hope to see you there.

David Harden, President

Coming Programs

July, August	No Meetings/Happy Birding	
September	Jim Mori	"Butterflies"
October	Ed Pandolfino	"Natural History of Sierra Nevada Birds"
November	Chris Calonje	"The Birds of Columbia"

(Monthly programs are held in the Tuolumne Public Library)

Osprey Count

The Bureau of Reclamation will be holding an Osprey Count at New Melones Reservoir on Saturday, June 22, starting at 8 a.m. They need experienced birders to assist in the count. Contact Ranger Cynthia Watson at 209-536-9094, ext. 217, if you would like to participate.

Field Trips

GCS D

June 5

"The First Wednesday of the Month Bird Walk" at the Groveland Community Services District (located at 18966 Ferretti Road, Groveland) is led by Jeanne Ridgley. The property encompasses an area of more than 200 acres of oak, pine and willow habitat with three water storage ponds. One hundred and thirty-three species of birds have been seen there since November of 2007.

Dates for upcoming trips:

June 5, July 3 , August 7 and September 4

Meet the group in the GCS D parking lot at 8 a.m. Bring binoculars and a birding field guide if you have one. Rain will cancel the trip. The walk will last about two-three hours. If you have any questions, call Jeanne at 962-7598.

RR to Lyons Dam

June 22

Meet with David Harden and Pamela Blair to enjoy a bird walk on Saturday morning, June 22. We will stroll along the old railroad grade that leads to Lyons Dam. We should see some good summer migrants along with the year 'round residents. Meet at 7:30 a.m. where the railroad grade leaves Confidence-South Fork Road just north of Middlecamp-Sugar Pine Road. Parking is limited so folks should meet to car pool at 7:00 a.m. behind Perko's on Mono Way in Sonora. As usual wear muted colors. It is summer so wear a hat, sun protection, bring water, a snack, sturdy but comfortable shoes, binoculars, field guides and spotting scopes if you have them. You may contact David at (209) 352-4049 or email him at dharden@sonnet.com.

Ken Smith, Field Trip Chairperson

An Urgent Plea

From our Field Trip Chairperson

Special request to CSAS Birders: This month's field trip is the second David & Pamela have volunteered to lead since October 2012, in addition to their duties as CSAS President and Education Chairs. Jean Ridgley has led several CSAS trips including her monthly CSAS trips to GCSD the first weekend of each month. I need other volunteers to help carry the load if our field trip programs are to be successful as in past years. It's kind of like the old Uncle Sam Posters -- I NEED YOU!!! According to our records, CSAS has 393 members in our chapter. Stop waiting for the other person to take up the slack. I can be reached at anytime at my cell: 949-922-1455. Just leave a message or email at: kenksingz_2@yahoo.com. I will respond. Am I getting desperate? You bet I am! Birding is for the Birds! Thanks!

Ken Smith, Field Trip Chair

Here's How You Can Prepare

An opportunity I hope you don't pass up!

To all Birdwatchers: this is a great opportunity for you and CSAS.

Last night, at our monthly general meeting at the library in Sonora, we had the privilege of having as our guest speaker, Retired National Park Ranger Nancy Eileen Muleady-Mecham, Ph.D., Fulbright Scholar. She gave us a wonderful, entertaining and informative talk on the majestic Sequoias. She has offered to lead a field trip to Calaveras Big Trees State Park which I shall set up as soon as possible.

She has also offered to conduct a class on how to lead a bird walk or birding field trip. I see this as a wonderful opportunity for all of us to get past the nervous jitters and gain skills and confidence to engage the birding public. One does not need to be a "skilled" birder to participate as it is geared to the amateur. It should be fun and also make the CSAS a much stronger Audubon chapter while improving our own birding skills.

In my opinion, CSAS seriously needs new field trip volunteers if we are to remain a viable Audubon chapter and spread the joy of birding to others. This is an opportunity few Audubon chapters have. We

would be remiss to not take advantage of her generosity.

Please let me know of your interest and I shall set up the class as soon as possible.

Ken Smith, Field Trip Chairperson

A Golden Opportunity

Summer is a busy time

Since some of us will probably be "out and about" during at least part of the summer, communication with the "troops" will be difficult at best, so I am personally urging each of you who have any interest in this type of activity to get on board--I hope the opportunity to develop skills as mentioned in the forgoing article is taken advantage of by a many as possible. What a great opportunity! We really need more people willing to lead field trips. I really hope I will be able to go and I hope to see many of you taking advantage of this neat experience!

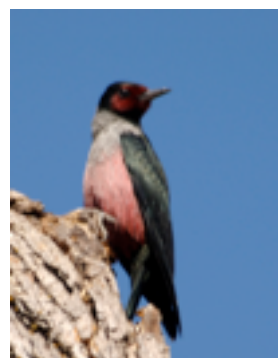
Irv Logan, Newsletter Editor

While I've Got You on the Phone...

It's been a fun ride!

Thank you for putting up with me as your newsletter editor this past year. It has been a constant learning experience for me and I have enjoyed the opportunity to "rub shoulders" with some mighty fine people. However, due to personal reasons, I have, painfully, decided to not continue on as your editor. You are a great bunch of people and do a wonderful work for not just the chapter members but the community at large, including not only the adults and children but our feathered and furry friends. I commend the CSAS and its members. Thank you!

Irv Logan, Newsletter Editor



Quiz: What am I?

Answer:
Please see back page.

Photo: Irv Logan

Away Field Trips

Stanislaus Audubon Society

Dry Creek, Modesto

June 8

The resident birds have now been joined by those who have migrated in for the summer, all frenetically engaged in activities of nesting and raising young. While the time for unusual sightings has waned, the opportunity for a lot of action views has increased. But while the birds will be extra active, we will have an easy and pleasant day in Modesto's parks. Trip leader, Dave Froba, froba@comcast.net, 209-521-7265. Meet at the Stanislaus Library parking lot at 1500 "I" Street at 7:00 a.m. We'll be back about noon. (Modesto location)

San Joaquin River NWR

June 15

San Joaquin River National Wildlife Refuge is huge and offers the most diverse habitats in the area, including mixed species transitional savannas, riparian forest, oak woodlands, grassland and seasonal wetlands. Trip leader, Bill Amundsen (209-521-8256 or birdscouter@prodigy.net) chooses the particular habitats to visit each month based upon conditions and seasons. Meet at the Stanislaus Library parking lot at 1500 "I" Street at 7:00 a.m. We'll be back by early afternoon. (Modesto location).

San Joaquin Audubon Society

Cosumnes River Preserve

June 8

Join leader Jim Rowoth (209-956-2648 or rowoth@sbcglobal.net) at the north end of Laurel Avenue in Lodi at 8:00 a.m. for a leisurely stroll on the trails of the Lodi Lake Wilderness Area. Birders of all skills are welcome. Extra binoculars and field guides will be available.

Woodbridge Wilderness Area

June 15

Leader undetermined at time of printing. Join us for our monthly census of this beautiful little riparian area on the lower Mokelumne River. Meet at the north end of Meadowlark Lane, off of Woodbridge Road, in the town of Woodbridge, at 8:00 a.m.

Mokelumne River Fish Hatchery

June 17

Join leader Liz West for her monthly census of this beautiful riparian area below Comanche Dam. Meet Liz at the fish hatchery parking lot at 8:00 a.m.

Field Trip Report

Woods Creek Park and Quartz Mountain

Reservoir

February 17

Twenty birders participated in this "Birding the Neighborhood" event. At first I was apprehensive about the large number of participants with their wide range of experience, but it worked out marvelously with several subgroups spread out along the trail working on different birds. Participants circulated between sub-groups. I had also invited members (6 attended) of my Columbia College, Birds of Central California, class to introduce them to CSAS. To that end, David Harden, talked briefly about the local Audubon chapter. The day was sunny with temperatures in the mid 60's and a light breeze.

The day produced 42 total species of which 8 were seen before we left the parking lot. Both sites delivered "promised" species: Red-breasted Sapsucker, Band-tailed Pigeon, Red-shouldered Hawk and Hermit Thrush at Woods Creek; Say's Phoebe, Western Bluebird, American Widgeon, Bufflehead and Ruddy Duck at the reservoir.

Guy Van Cleave, Trip Leader

Natural History Discovery Program

Calaveras Big Trees State Park

June 12-14

Join last month's guest speaker, Fulbright Scholar and retired NPS Park Ranger, Dr. Nancy Muleady-Mecham, for an opportunity to learn about Sierra geology and weather, the forest itself, wildflowers, birds, astronomy, animal adaptations, Giant Sequoias, fire ecology, people and history and much more.

Maximum number of participants: 20. Age range: 13 and up. Cost: \$150 per person. This includes a three day pass to Calaveras Big Trees State Park and a BBQ Saturday night.

For more information or to reserve your spot, contact:

Calaveras Big Trees Association

P. O. Box 1196, Arnold, CA 95223-1196

209-795-3840

www.bigtrees.org

Central Sierra Audubon Society

(A Chapter of the National Audubon Society)

P. O. Box 3047

Sonora 95370

209-532-0570

www.centralsierraaudubon.org

Join CSAS_Birds Listserve!

You will be informed of the most recent sightings, encouraged to post your own sightings, able to ask questions and exchange information on birds and birding knowledge. Our club is very easy to join: Just send an email to csasbird@gmail.com and request to join CSAS_Birds Listserve. You will receive a return "invitation via email and all you need to do is click on the line to join. It is that easy! If you have any questions, please contact csasbird@gmail.com.

Answer to Quiz: Adult Lewis's Woodpecker

If you have a suggestion for a Mystery Bird please contact the editor. Thank you!

General Meetings: Third Wednesday, 7 p.m.
(except July and August)
Tuolumne Public Library

Board Meetings: First Wednesday, 6 p.m.
(September through May)
Jamestown Community Hall

Your Audubon Board

David Harden, President	533-1668
Tom Parrington, VP/Conservation	928-3835
Tom Harrington, Secretary	694-8564
Rick Baird, Past President	532-1106
Ken Smith, Field Trips	949-922-1455
Jeanne Ridgley, Membership	962-7598
Pamela Blair, Education	533-1668
Jan Jorn-Baird, Publicity	532-1106
Irv Logan, Newsletter	505-3250

Your Audubon Committees

Suzanne Kilburn, Bird Box Trail	532-1938
Tom Harrington, Book Sales	694-8564
Anthea Neilson, Hospitality	533-0360
Pamela Blair, Scholarship	533-1668
John Turner, Website	852-2348
Steven Umland, Sightings, Sonora CBC	352-6985
Barry Boulton, Calaveras CBC	596-0612

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

To become a member of the National Audubon Society, with a subscription to *Audubon* magazine, **and** a member of the Central Sierra Audubon Society, with a subscription to the CSAS newsletter, *The Sierra Squawker*, complete this form and submit it with a check for \$20 payable to National Audubon Society.

To become a member of CSAS, with a subscription to the CSAS newsletter, *The Sierra Squawker*, please make your check for \$15 payable to CSAS. Please mail either request to:

Jeanne Ridgley, CSAS Membership Chairperson
9353 Pine Mountain Drive, Groveland, CA 95321

Name _____ Phone _____

Street address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email address _____

Newsletter preference (circle one): Email Snailmail Website (centralsierraaudubon.org)

C3ZC440Z