

THE HOOT OWL



November / December 2019
Issue 6, Volume 57

San Joaquin Audubon Society
Affiliated with the National Audubon Society-California

PROGRAMS

The meeting location is at Central United Methodist Church, 3700 Pacific Avenue (across from UOP) in Stockton, and begins at 7:30 p.m. Plenty of parking and refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

TUESDAY, November 12
Nancy E. Muleady-Mecham, Ph.E.
"Siberian Fulbrightness"

Imagine being sent to Russia on a Fulbright Scholarship to teach, conduct research and engage in community outreach. Now imagine that the scholar has requested to do all of this in one of the more remote corners of our planet, the Altai Republic of Siberia. Siberian Fulbrightness is a look into the rural culture of indigenous people and Slavic Russians as Doc Nancy taught courses in medicine and biology at Gorno-Altai State University, conducted research in the closed, strictly protected areas called zapovedniks, and engaged in numerous community outreach programs resulting in the first ever astronomy Club in Southwest Siberia. There is also a look at the Trans-Siberian Railroad, Lake Baikal, and the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Center at Star City.

Doc Nancy is an Adjunct Professor of biology at Northern Arizona University and Columbia College, Sonora as well as a Visiting Lecturer for the University of Virginia Semester At Sea Program where she taught biology around the world. Doc Nancy was selected by the United States as a Fulbright Scholar and traveled to the Russian Federation to teach at Gorno-Altai State University in southwest Siberia and to conduct research in remote protected areas.

Nancy is a retired United States National Park Ranger and lives in the Sierra Nevada with her family. When not working on her research on Giant Sequoias she loves to backpack. She leads High Sierra backcountry seminars on horseback for Rock Creek pack Station. She has completed solo hikes of the John Muir and High Sierra Trails through the Sierra Nevada, hiked through the Alps on The Haute Route from Chamonix to Zermatt, and is a Pacific Crest Trail section hiker. She is also the author of several books.

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FIELD TRIPS

FRI.-SAT.-SUN., November 1-2-3— *Lodi Sandhill Crane Festival*

A weekend of fun for the whole family. General admission is FREE. Please note that, due to the Lodi Sandhill Crane Festival, there will be no Introductory Birding Field Trip this month. You can sign up for one of the two trips (Saturday or Sunday) to Lodi Lake Wilderness Area thru the Lodi Sandhill Crane festival registration, pending space availability. Many other field trips also available.

SATURDAY, November 9— *Cosumnes River Preserve*

Join leader Jim Rowoth (487-3489 or rowoth@sbcglobal.net) for the monthly River Walk bird count through the varied habitats of the CRP. Meet Jim at the visitor center on Franklin Rd. Check website www.cosumnes.org for last minute updates. Double check with Jim for start time.

SATURDAY, November 16— *Woodbridge Wilderness*

Join leaders Kathy and Virginia Bonham for our monthly census of this small riparian park on the banks of the Mokelumne River. Meet at the north end of Meadowlark Lane in Woodbridge at 8:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, November 17— *Mokelumne River Fish Hatchery*

Join leaders Liz West and Joanne Katanic for our monthly census of this lovely little riparian area below Camanche Dam. Meet Liz and Joanne in the fish hatchery parking lot at 8:00 a.m.

THU.-SUN, November 21-24— *Central Valley Birding Symposium*

Join your fellow birding friends for the 23rd annual Central Valley Birding Symposium! The premier Birding Symposium in the Central Valley is always one of the highlights of the birding year. Key notes, field trips, workshops, vendors and unbeatable camaraderie. For more details on the event, see the article on page 3.

SATURDAY, December 7— *Introductory Birding Field Trip*

Join leader Pat Paternostro at the north end of Laurel Ave. in Lodi (on the east side of Lodi Lake Park, off of Turner Rd.) at 8:00 a.m. Birders of all skill levels are welcome, but the focus will be on birding fundamentals. Extra binoculars and field guides will be available.

SATURDAY, December 14— *Cosumnes River Preserve*

Join leader Jim Rowoth (487-3489 or rowoth@sbcglobal.net) for the monthly River Walk bird count through the varied habitats of the CRP. Meet Jim at the visitor center on Franklin Rd. Check website www.cosumnes.org for last minute updates. Double check with Jim for start time.

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FIELD TRIPS

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SUNDAY, December 15— *Stockton Christmas Bird Count*

Join old friends and make new friends at San Joaquin Audubon's longest running and most important field activity of the year. This is citizen science at its best! We go out dawn-to-dusk regardless of weather conditions, so it's always an adventure. For more information, or to sign up, contact Jim Rowoth (478-3489, or rowoth@sbcglobal.net).

SATURDAY, December 21— *Woodbridge Wilderness*

Join leaders Kathy and Virginia Bonham for our monthly census of this small riparian park on the banks of the Mokelumne River. Meet at the north end of Meadowlark Lane in Woodbridge at 8:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, December 22— *Mokelumne River Fish Hatchery*

Join leaders Liz West and Joanne Katanic for our monthly census of this lovely little riparian area below Camanche Dam. Meet the leaders in the fish hatchery parking lot at 8:00 a.m.

SATURDAY, December 28— *Wallace-Bellota Christmas Bird Count*

Don't be left out! What better way to end the year than by participating in the Wallace-Bellota CBC? Work off some of the Holiday meals! This is the foothill counterpart to the Stockton CBC. Get out in the country for some fresh air and great birds in the company of some great people! To sign up or for more information, please contact Kasey Foley, kaseyfoley@sbcglobal.net or (209) 473-3904.

PROGRAMS

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TUESDAY, December 10

David Yee

"Christmas Bird Counts - Trends and Expectations for the Central Valley and Adjacent Foothills"

Please join us for our annual presentation by resident and world-renowned birder, David Yee, regarding the Stockton and Wallace-Bellota Christmas Bird Counts (CBC). We will learn what to expect on this year's CBCs and how to prepare for them. This presentation is for beginning birders and advanced birders alike, we will all learn something from David's perpetual bird research and lifelong knowledge of birds and their trends.

You can sign up for the local CBCs at the November or December meetings or contact Jim Rowoth at rowoth@sbcglobal.net for the Stockton CBC on Sunday, December 15, 2019 or Kasey Foley at kaseyfoley@sbcglobal.net for the Wallace-Bellota CBC on Saturday, December 28, 2019.

From the President's Desk

San Joaquin birders:

I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself (for those who I haven't met at a meeting or field trip). I am excited to take the reins as President of San Joaquin Audubon. Susan, Dale and those who filled the role previously have made for an easy transition.

I have loved birds since I was a child. My father, though not a birder himself, encouraged me to take Sunday walks through a local nature preserve in central Pennsylvania. There I grew to appreciate not just the Northern Cardinals, Blue Jays and Tufted Titmice, but nature in general. This led me to pursue a Forestry Science degree from Penn State University, which I completed in 1992.

I first moved to San Joaquin county (Lodi) in 1997, then most recently in 2012, with a few years in Ohio between the two.

My goals are to keep the strong reputation SJ Audubon has in the community, continue the causes we currently undertake, and look for new ways to improve our natural world.

Please say hello whenever we may meet.

Respectfully,

Pat Paternostro

23rd Annual Central Valley Birding Symposium

The Central Valley Bird Club will be hosting the 23rd annual Central Valley Birding Symposium Nov. 21–24, 2019, at the Stockton Hilton Hotel in Stockton, CA. The Great Central Valley, in the heart of California and the Pacific Flyway, is uniquely situated for excellent birding. Please join us as the CVBS again celebrates the best of birding in the Central Valley!

The CVBS kicks off with a delicious hors d'oeuvres buffet & no host bar on Thursday night, followed by one of our favorite keynotes, outstanding photographer, birder, and presenter, Ed Harper, with his program, "*Simply in Awe of Birds*".

Friday night's keynote program "*The Language of Birds*" will be presented by Nathan Pieplow, author of the Peterson Field Guide to Bird Sounds.

Saturday night's keynote program, "*The Genius of Birds*" will be presented by acclaimed science and nature writer, Jennifer Ackerman.

Informative and entertaining workshops include: "*Subspecies for Birders*" with Joe Morlan, "*I Know It When I See It*" by Jon Dunn, Nature/Wildlife Photography and Photo Editing (Ben Knoot), Bird Sketching (René Reyes), Beginning Birding (Sal Salerno) and Carving (Jim Burcio).

Field trips, offered Friday, Saturday and Sunday, always turn up exciting birds. Add in the entertaining and educational Bird ID Panel, the wonderful selection of optics, art and gifts at the Birder's Market plus the camaraderie of hundreds of like-minded folks, and you know you'll have a good time! There's something for everyone interested in birds. Come and join us to bird, learn, and just have fun!

To look over the schedule of events, go to: <http://www.cvbirds.org/events/symposium/>

Volunteers Needed to Help Combat Climate Change

Have you ever wondered what you can do to help combat climate change? Why not join this local grassroots effort? The San Joaquin County Climate Action Coalition is involved with several local tree planting efforts, including one that focuses on native oaks. We anticipate a need for assistants in late November/early December. If you're interested in helping out, please volunteer through the CAC's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/sjclimateaction. San Joaquin Audubon is one of the CAC's affiliated groups.

Susan Schneider, Education Chair

BIRD SIGHTINGS

August 9, 2019 - October 6, 2019
(All sightings pertain to San Joaquin County)

Submitted by Liz West

On August 10th, Terre Ronneberg found a **Brown Pelican** on a lake in Woodbridge Del Webb community in Manteca. It was gone two hours later.

David Yee observed a juvenile **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, August 19th, at the Lodi Sewage ponds. There was also a juvenile **Lesser Yellowlegs** present.

On August 29th, Kasey Foley saw a **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, part of an irruption of Red-breasted Nuthatches into the Central Valley, in her backyard. A **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was last heard at Lodi Lake during the beginning bird walk October 5th.

Eliot Shoening flushed a **Least Bittern** in Shin Kee wetlands while kayaking on September 11th.

On September 25th, David Yee found a **Red-necked Grebe** in the San Joaquin portion of Camanche Reservoir.

At Geradot Stable ponds, Joanne Katanic, Virginia and Kathy Bonham observed a **Willet** on September 26th.

On September 28th, David Yee found a bathing immature **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** at Lodi Lake.

San Joaquin Audubon Society
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San Joaquin Audubon Society

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David Coursey	Listserve Moderator

Website: www.sanjoaquinaudubon.org

Listserve: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sjbirds/>

Other California Birding E-mail Listserves

<https://groups.io/g/calbirds>

<https://groups.io/centralvalleybirds>

<https://groups.io/g/StanislausBirds>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/central-sierra-birds/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sierra-nevadabirds/>

Membership

National Membership

By joining the National Audubon Society you are also a member of the San Joaquin Chapter. This includes subscriptions to the award-winning *Audubon Magazine* and to the chapter newsletter, *The Hoot Owl*. Both publications are bimonthly. For *national membership*, send check payable to the **National Audubon Society** to the address below.

National Audubon Membership Rate: \$20

San Joaquin Audubon Society
Attn: Membership (National)
P.O. Box 7755
Stockton, CA 95267

Local-Only Membership

This includes a subscription to the bimonthly chapter newsletter, *The Hoot Owl*. For *local membership*, send check payable to **San Joaquin Audubon Society** to the address below.

Chapter Newsletter—mailed paper copy \$15

Chapter Newsletter—electronic copy \$10

San Joaquin Audubon Society
Attn: Membership (Local)
P.O. Box 7755
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