

# THE HOOT OWL



September / October 2018  
Issue 5, Volume 56

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, September 11**  
**Derrick Caringi**  
**"Mistletoe and Myths"**

Derrick will present a general overview of mistletoe commonly encountered in the area and review the history and myths associated with it. He will discuss the lifecycle of mistletoe and discuss the negative and positive (?) benefits of *Phoradendron*. This presentation will also present some methods to control mistletoe and the spread of it to other trees.

Derrick is a Manager responsible for various projects involving trees in the Urban and Wildland setting. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry and Forest Biology from The College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF, Syracuse NY). Derrick is a Certified Arborist, a Utility specialist, and holds the TRAQ (tree risk assessment qualification) certification. His favorite tree is the Sierra Redwood (Giant sequoia) and his favorite bird is the American bittern. Derrick has a beautiful wife and two young daughters and he resides in Shingle Springs, California.

**TUESDAY, October 9**  
**Andrea Jones**  
**"The Salton Sea"**

The Salton Sea, an inland saline lake covering 350 square miles in southern California, is a critically endangered "Important Bird Area" that hosts 2/3 of California's bird species. Andrea will highlight why the Salton Sea is so important that over 400 species of birds use its habitats and will describe which species are most threatened by a changing Sea. Andrea will discuss past efforts to "restore" the sea and describe how Audubon is engaging currently in a new solution for [the Salton Sea](#) that will be beneficial to both birds and people.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## FIELD TRIPS

**SATURDAY, September 1— *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, September 8— *Cosumnes River Preserve***

Join leader Jim Rowoth (487-3489 or [rowoth@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](http://www.cosumnes.org) for last minute updates. Double check with Jim for start time. **Note: A new CRP policy requires that all participants must RSVP through the EventBrite link on the web-site.**

**SATURDAY, September 15— *Woodbridge Wilderness Area***

Join leader Kasey Foley 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, September 16— *Mokelumne River Fish Hatchery***

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

**SATURDAY, September 22— *Caswell Memorial State Park***

Meet leader Jim Rowoth (487-3489 or [rowoth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rowoth@sbcglobal.net)) at 7:00 a.m. at the small parking area just inside the entrance to this, our county's only state park (per car entry fee). We'll walk the trails and search for migrants in the dense foliage and underbrush. Bring water and bug spray.

**SATURDAY, October 6— *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, October 13— *Cosumnes River Preserve***

Join leader Jim Rowoth (487-3489 or [rowoth@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](http://www.cosumnes.org) for last minute updates. Double check with Jim for start time. **Note: A new CRP policy requires that all participants must RSVP through the EventBrite link on the web-site.**

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## PROGRAMS

(Continued from Page 1)

**TUESDAY, October 9**

**Andrea Jones**  
**"The Salton Sea"**

Andrea is the Director of Bird Conservation for Audubon California. For the past 12 years, she has led conservation programs and worked with staff and the network of Audubon chapters across the state to implement conservation projects at high priority Important Bird Areas (IBAs). She oversees Audubon's efforts in priority bird species and serves as the spokeswoman for bird conservation across California. Prior to Audubon California, Andrea worked at Massachusetts Audubon where she served as the Director of the Coastal Waterbird Program. Andrea received her M.S. in Wildlife Conservation/Ornithology and her B.S. in Wildlife Biology and Management from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She is a past board member of Morro Coast Audubon and currently resides in the East Bay of San Francisco.

## FIELD TRIPS

(Continued from page 1)

**SATURDAY, October 20— Woodbridge Wilderness Area**

Join leader Liz West 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, October 21— 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.

## S J Audubon Nature Book Exchange

We will continue our book exchange this fall. Visit our Nature Book table and take a look at these treasures! You can either exchange a book that you've brought from home for another, or simply take a book. Monetary donation is optional. The only thing we request is, if you bring a book and it has not been taken by the time you leave, please take it back home with you—you can always bring it back the following month. We on the board do not wish to acquire a permanent collection of books!

## Central Valley Birding Symposium

The Central Valley Bird Club will be hosting the 22nd annual Central Valley Birding Symposium Nov. 15–18, 2018, 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 scrumptious 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 on "*Northern Delights*".

Friday night's keynote program "*Bird Migration: The More We Learn, The Less We Know*" will be presented by Ed Pandolfino.

Saturday night's keynote program, "*The Trade Off*" will be presented by John Kricher. In this lively and thought-provoking presentation, he will contrast the lives, ecology, and natural history of long-distance migrant passerine birds with bird species that are permanent residents of lowland tropical forests.

Informative and entertaining workshops include: "*History of Field Identification*" with Joe Morlan, "*eBird, Bird Identification, and Alternative Facts: eGads!*" by Kimball Garrett, a specimen workshop, and an update on Central Valley bird conservation and research programs. Build your skills at these workshops: Digiscoping, Image Editing, Bird Sketching, Beginning Birding and Carving.

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/>

Registration begins August 24, 2018.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As I write, fires rage throughout the west and the summer heat is intense. Contemplating autumn is pleasant, and my wildlife-friendly yard will look friendlier once the rains return. But I chose the native and other waterwise plants there to offer something of interest throughout the year, and even at this challenging season, they come through. My California Fuchsias are a magnet for hummingbirds all summer, and I recently had four fighting over these long-lasting scarlet flowers, dive-bombing each other. For my first few years here, female Anna's dominated. Lately it's been males . . . go figure. My California Buckwheat is great for pollinators and also marvelously long-blooming with little effort on my part. Other plants require deadheading – my native Desert Mallow, for example, and a new Gaillardia that seems to be fairly happy. It's been a real odyssey to figure out what works. This autumn I'm putting in native milkweed for the first time, hoping for Monarch butterflies.

Meanwhile, my nyjer thistle feeders attract customers year-round, and the male American Goldfinches with their vibrant summer yellow are a feast for the eyes. I'm happy with the more abundant Lesser Goldfinches too. Every season has its pleasures in our region – but enjoy the coming end of fire season and the onset of more pleasant temperatures. Come out on one of our field trips – and bring a friend!

Susan Schneider  
President, San Joaquin Audubon Society

## HELP WANTED!

As you recently may have heard, the San Joaquin County budget for the coming year called for the permanent closure of the Oak Grove Nature Center--after 37 years of operation and tens of thousands of children and adults served. After docents negotiated with the County Parks Department, the Nature Center was given a reprieve.

The County will continue to pay the utilities, but they will no longer provide any staff support. The Nature Center program will live or die based on the work of its volunteer docents.

There are presently only a dozen or so active docents, and only five who regularly lead school tours. Some of our docents are retired teachers and others just folks who want to help. Some docents lead school tours and others work the Nature Center Museum on weekends. A few do various tasks like working in the native plant garden. We desperately need more docents.

Can you help? To say YES, or for more information, or to volunteer your neighbor, contact Alan England by email at [wdchkgsgl@yahoo.com](mailto:wdchkgsgl@yahoo.com) or by telephone at 209-298-8634. Let's keep the Oak Grove Nature Center alive.

## BIRD SIGHTINGS

*June 16, 2018 - August 15, 2018*

*(All sightings pertain to San Joaquin County)*

Submitted by Liz West

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, while watching and assisting in a UCD bird-banding project, David Yee found a **Broad-tailed Hummingbird** at Heritage Oaks Winery. It was captured and measurements were taken, which fit a juvenile male the best.

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, Terry Ronneberg saw a female **Calliope Hummingbird** at his feeders in Manteca.

On the Fourth of July, David Yee heard a **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** at Oak Grove Park in Ripon. Cuckoos nested along this stretch of Stanislaus River down to the San Joaquin River until the 1970's.

During a July 16<sup>th</sup> visit to Lodi Sewage Ponds, Jim Rowoth found a **Whimbrel** and a **Marbled Godwit**. The Whimbrel was still present on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

David Yee saw a **Willet** and a **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, July 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Lodi Sewage ponds. The Semipalmated Sandpiper was present through July 30<sup>th</sup>.

San Joaquin Audubon Society  
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Website: [www.sanjoaquinaudubon.org](http://www.sanjoaquinaudubon.org)

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

## Other California Birding E-mail Listserves

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

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/central\\_valley\\_birds/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/central_valley_birds/)

<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)**  
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**Stockton, CA 95267**

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