



THE HOOT OWL

SAN JOAQUIN AUDUBON SOCIETY

MARCH APRIL 1991

VOL 29 #2

TUE. MAR. 12. BIRDS OF MONTANA: MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM.

Another special program for our members and guests to be presented by Ed. Harper who is well known for his photography and naturalist skills. He is a native of Montana who returns there often to bird and photograph nature. 7:30pm at United Methodist Church. Ample parking, get out of your easy chair and come on down.

SAT. MAR. 16. KNIGHTS FERRY BIRD AND FLOWER TRIP. We will walk up the river trail east from the old covered bridge. We will also check out some of the area reservoirs, should they hold any water. Meet at Burn's Tower U.O.P.. 8am. Call leader Steve Stocking for car-pooling and other information.

TUE. APL. 9. CONSERVATION OF RAINFOREST PRIMATES IN INDONESIA: MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM. Dr. Rich Tenaza of U.O.P. will illustrate for us the biology, natural history and politics of the special types of primates which he has been studying in southeast Asia. Dr. Tenaza always presents a program which makes us wish that we could go there with him. 7:30pm at the United Methodist Church near U.O.P. in Stockton. Refreshments and announcements as well!

SAT. APL. 6. Cosumnes River Monthly Census. J. Schick. 464-7083.

SUN. APL. 14. MOKELUMNE RIVER BIRD TRIP. Witness spring migration of vireos, warblers, grosbeaks etc in good riparian habitat. Jim Rowoth will lead us at Sillman MaGee & Van Assen Parks. Meet near El Pollo Loco in the Costco parking lot on Hammer Lane. 6462-7512. 7:30am.

SAT. APR. 20. LODI LAKE FIELD TRIP. Interested youngsters and beginners of all ages are always encouraged to participate in our trips. But this trip is especially for any of you who may have felt a bit intimidated by advanced birders or perhaps are just interested in getting started. Join Nancy Ballot at this nice place to see birds at their best. Meet at the end of Laurel St. in Lodi, 8:30. 465-9461.

SAT. APL. 27. CONNOLLY RANCH. We are lucky for this opportunity to get access to the southwest corner of our county. Calliope hummingbirds, white-throated swifts, and golden eagles are there. Meet Terry Ronneberg at 8am at the Pombo Real Estate Office parking lot at 11st. & Byron Rd. in Tracy. 8835-7847.

SUN. MAY 5. LAVA BLUFFS, CALAVERAS BIG TREES STATE PARK. Spend a nice day in a marvelous place, be prepared for a 3-4 mi. moderate hike. Last year leader Jim Rowoth saw Pileated Woodpecker, Spotted Owl, Evening Grosbeak, Mt. Kingsnake, and Ringneck Snake here. Meet near El Polo Loco in the Costco parking lot on Hammer Lane at 7:30am. 462-7512.

FRI. MAY 10. OUR 50th ANNIVERSITY DINNER. SAVE THIS DATE. WE EXPECT STATE RESOURCES SECRETARY DOUG WHEELER TO BE OUR SPEAKER FOR THIS VERY SPECIAL CELEBRATION. Call John Schick for information 464-7083.

Sat. May 11. Monthly Cosumnes Bird Census. J. Schick 464-7083.

SUN. MAY 19. MT. ST. HELENA FIELD TRIP. Have a good day on this beautiful Napa County mountain. You will probably find Lazuli Buntings, Band-tailed Pigeons as well as side-blotched & sagebrush lizards. Meet leader James Rexroth at 7:30 at the Burns tower of U.O.P. 951-6260.

BIRD BRAINS

The cuckoo is an accomplished parasite that tricks other birds into rearing its young. The host gain no benefit because the hatching ejects their eggs from the nest. Both species engage in an evolutionary arms race - the host attempting to thwart predation, the cuckoo developing subtle subterfuge.



HELP NEEDED FOR SHOREBIRD COUNT; LOS BANOS AREA.

Point Reyes Bird Observatory and the Grasslands Resource Conservation Dist. are conducting a count of shorebirds in the Los Banos area on, Sunday April 21. They need people to help do the counting. This is part of PRBO's Pacific Flyway Project of censusing shorebirds from Baja to Alaska for a two week period. Meet in the parking lot of the Los Banos Wildlife Area, on Henry Miller Ave, at 7am. Bring a lunch. If you have any questions call Tim Poole at 826-5188 (W) or 392-6766 (H).

In conjunction with this, there are plans for a dedication ceremony and luncheon on Saturday, April 20. The dedication would include the Grassland area in the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. For further information on this, call Tim Poole at the above numbers.

NEW OCEAN BIRD GUIDEBOOK

Did you come to our last meeting and see the interesting birds Don Roberson showed our group? Now you can learn all about the Red-tailed Tropicbird in case you see it on your next sail to the Channel Islands or on to Tahiti.

Ocean Birds of the Nearshore Pacific by Rich Stallcup is available from PBRO, c/o Publisher's Services, P.O. Box 2510, Novato, Ca. 94948 Include a check for \$19.95 plus \$2.50 for shipping and handling.

CONNOLLY RANCH HIKE & PICNIC

Mark Connolly has invited Audubon Society members to the Third Annual Hike and Picnic at his family ranch S.W. of Tracy. The hike will begin at 9am and the picnic lunch at 11. The Ranch will be providing Lunch & refreshments so we must R.S.V.P. our numbers. Call John Schick if you plan to go, 464-7083. Please no children as there are snakes in the area. There will be representatives from other groups interested in the environment.



RETRAINING CRANES

Ohio researchers are attaching crane beaks to their hands and marching around swamps in Michigan. This in an attempt to show how sandhill cranes born in captivity can be encouraged to join a migratory flock of cranes that regularly stop at a Michigan refuge. These test techniques are designed to help the endangered whooping crane, but are being tried

out on the more common sandhills. So far the techniques has worked. The only preservation project for the whoopers is in Kessimsee Prairie in central Florida where biologists are introducing captive-borne cranes into a migratory flock.

(Science, Vol. 24, pg. 1498)

Possibly it won't be long before the Condors are reintroduced in California?

SPRING WILDFLOWER SEMINARS

In early summer Kings Canyon National Park provides a spectacular display of wildflowers. Kings Canyon Wildflowers will include a car wildflower tour the 30 miles from Grant Grove down 3,000 feet to Cedar Grove or Sat. and, after camping overnight at Cedar Grove, a tour of the Cedar Grove wildflower areas. (We will not ignore the birds.) This seminar will be June 15 and 16. The following week-end will be the 5th year of the popular Grant Grove weekend wildflower seminar. We will spend that weekend in the meadows, forests and Sequoia groves of this area, 60 miles east of Fresno. For more information on these or other seminars contact your leader; Steve Stocking at 465-2729.

HIKE ANCIENT FORESTS

Ancient Forest Hikes are designed to show you some of the remaining priceless treasures from our heritage national heritage that are largely unprotected from the chain-saw. These majestic spires will lift your spirit more than any human-built cathedral! Thrill to the call of the spotted owl or the sight of an osprey positioning for a dive. Leader, Mary Vogel, covers ecology, wildlife, Native American lore, and the politics of the Ancient Forest Debate. Weekend to week-long programs are available. Send for a fee brochure and application to Ancient Forest Hikes, P.O.Box 13585, Salem Or 97309-1585 or 503/8370-8944 for rates and dates.



Ancient Forests

JOIN US IN THE FIELD:

University of California field research teams need your time and talents! Animal behavior studies include albatross of the Galapagos, Marmots of Pakistan, and Endangered Calif. Pelicans. Environmental studies include Rain forest and paramo of Ecuador, Costa Rica's tropical forests and Wetlands in northern California. There are other topics in Marine Studies, Archaeology/Paleontology and Arts/Culture. No previous experience is necessary. Your participation and tax-deductible contribution make the research possible. Scholarships for teachers and students are available. Contact Univ. Research Expeditions Program Dept., D04 Univ. of Ca. Berkeley Ca. 94720

AUDUBON ECOLOGY CAMPS

Field Ecology at Audubon Camp of the West in Wyoming's Wind River Range?, Field Biology or Ornithology in Maine? A field ecology or a photography workshop in Florida. Workshops on the California Wetlands or the Ancient Forests of the Olympic Peninsula? For Registration, costs and other information contact Audubon Ecology Camps and Workshops Natl. Audubon Society, 613 Riverside Road, Greenwich, CT. 06831 (203) 869-2017. Or get a brochure from one of your officers.

OAK GROVE PARK COMMITTEE

The San Joaquin County Parks and Recreation Commission and Department are forming a committee to study the needs of the 80 acre natural area at the Oak Grove Park. This committee will make a 6 month study and develop a 5 year plan for the care and nature of this unique area. If you are interested in being a part of the planning process for this area, which San Joaquin Audubon helped to have set aside and preserved in its "natural" state, contact the Chair of the Committee, Mrs. Sylvia Kothe by addressing a letter to her care of the San Joaquin County Parks and Recreation Department.

AUDUBON DESERT ECOLOGY

The 21st annual Institute of Desert Ecology sponsored by Tucson Audubon will be held Apl. 18-21 at Catalina State Park north of Tucson. 6 desert natural history experts help you explore the desert environment as you camp out, meals are catered! Cost is \$245 with credit available. Contact Nora Mays, 300 E. University Blvd. Suite 120. Tucson Az. 85705 or call 606 682-8716



BIRDS

12-24, 3 R.B. Nuthatch, Stockton Rural Cem. J.R.
 12-25, 6 Lewis Woodpeckers, Ospital Rd. J.R. &
 3 Spotted Sandpiper & an Osprey at Moke River
 Picnic Area. 12-26, Pr.Gt.Horned Owl, Stockton
 Rural Cem.. 12-30. Br.Creeper, Mickies Grove by
 J.R.& James Rexroth. 1-13. Horned Grebe at
 Tracy Sewage Ponds, and R.B. Nuthatch at Oak
 Island, T.R. 1-20, 80 L.B. Curlew on Davis Rd. J.R.
 1-21 a Wh.-Th Sparrow at Oak Is. S.J.Co. by T.R.
 1-26 Cal. Thrasher at Oak Island, T.R. 1-27, 2
 Varied Thrush at Sktn Rural Cem. J.R. 1-27 a
 Br.Creeper at Oak Is. T.R. 1-27 a Merlin and a
 Gr.Horned Owl at Oak Is. and 3 Am.Avocet at
 Tracy Sewage Ponds. T.R. 2-2 a Prairie Falcon,
 a Golden Eagle and a Ruf. Cr. Sparrow at Corral
 Hollow by T.R. 2-3, 2 Mt. Plover at new Harney
 Lane Land Fill site, S.& L. Stocking. At the 2-9
 Cosumnes Count, 86 species, 2241 birds includ-
 ing Cin. Teal, Br.Creeper, Canvasback, 5 Lincoln
 Sparrows and many others, reported by John
 Schick. 2-10 Varied Thrush, R.B. Sapsucker, 2
 Spotted Sandpiper at Moke River, Lewis Wood-
 pecker at Campo Seco Rd. & Bald Eagle at Pardee
 all by J.R. 2-17 2 Red-Sh Hawks, 2 Swainsons
 Hawks & a Hermit Thrush at Oak Is. by T.R..
 2-17 A Harlequin Duck, Blue-Winged Teal, R.B.
 Merganser, Burrows & Common Goldeneye,
 Horned, Eared & W.Grebes at Princeton Harbor
 in San Mateo Co., Clay-colored Sparrow & Allens
 Hummer at feeder in Half-Moon Bay and 2 Willets,
 2 Bl. Turnstones, a Whimbrel and a Rock Sand-
 piper at Pebble Beach all by J.R.. 2-18 15 Lark
 Sparrow, 2 Cal.Thrasher, 2 Rufus-cr. Sparrow,
 6 Bewick's Wren & a Hermit Thrush all at Corral
 Hollow by T.R. 2-18 Cooper's Hawk, 2 Varied
 Thrush, a Wh.-Th Sparrow at Mickies Grove J.R.
 2-23 to 2-25 several hundred L.B. Curlew feeding
 in a field at Morada Lane and 99 reported by the
 Lamm's, Norm Smith and M.O. 2-27, 2 Bald
 Eagles near Milton at the new Calaveras Co. dump
 and one Bald Eagle at Pardee Dam, R. Chambers.
 Also during January through February large
 numbers of Dbl. Crested Cormorants were seen
 feeding on many local bodies of water including
 the Deep Water Channel & the Calaveras R. M.O.
 (J.R. is Jim Rowoth, T.R. is Terry Ronneberg and
 M.O. is "Many Observers".)
 LOOK FOR BURROWING OWLS IN SAN JOAQUIN CO.



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Joint membership in the National Audubon Society and the Stockton Audubon Society includes a subscription to both Audubon magazine and *The Hoop Owl*. Make checks payable to National Audubon Society and send to Stockton Audubon Society c/o John Schick, 940 N. Argonaut, Stockton, CA. 95203. Send renewals directly to the National Audubon Society.

---\$30 individual ---\$38 family ---\$18 student ---\$21 senior \$23 senior, family ---\$50 sustaining
---\$250 contributing ---\$500 donor ---\$1,500 life ---\$5 newsletter only (not member)

Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

FORM

540 California Tax Form

You may make a contribution of \$1 or more :

- 43 Alzheimer's Disease • 43 _____
- 44 Senior Citizens • 44 _____
- 45 **ENDANGERED SPECIES** • 45 \$15
- 46 Child Abuse • 46 _____
- 47 Olympics • 47 _____
- 48 Vietnam Veterans • 48 _____

TAX YOURSELF FOR WILDLIFE

When you do your California State Tax remember Line 45 under Step 10, Voluntary Contributions. Even the small contributions will add up to help protect and preserve habitat for our 254 native species of plant and animal which are listed as rare, endangered, and threatened.

Don't forget the Kit Fox, Greater Sandhill Crane, Swainson's Hawk, Gray Whale, Desert Tortoise and the Pismo Clarkia!

**Want To Save Planet Earth?
Audubon Has the Answer!**

For just a dollar, you can own the National Audubon Society's brand new poster — **Audubon's Top Ten Tips for Saving the Planet**. Informative and entertaining, this poster features drawings by Audubon Activist cartoonist Chip Bok, as well as straightforward how-tos on recycling, waste reduction, and more. Audubon's Top Ten Tips is a handy and easy-to-look-at reminder that you can make a difference for a better environment. It is perfect for hanging at home or in your office.

To order, just send \$1 (no cash, please) to Top Ten Tips, Information Services, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022. (Discounts available for bulk orders.)



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