



THE HOOT OWL

STOCKTON AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol 23 #4

Calendar



July-Aug '85

Saturday July 6 Dedication of Bicycle Pathway on the Calaveras River.
8-10am. Contact Helen Verber, Stockton City Hall for information.

Sunday July 7 Boat Trip to Farallon Islands (trip is already full)

Sat-Sun July 13-14 Yosemite National Park. Our annual trip to one of the most fabulous places on planet earth. We'll be camping at a designated campground so call leader George Welch to make reservations. 477-9618 evenings and 982-1800 ext 3015 days.

Sunday, Aug 3-4. Mt.Lassen National Park. This will be our first visit to this beautiful area in the northern Sierra. Osprey at Baum Lake will be one goal. Call Kathy Schick at 464-7083 no later than July 26 if you are interested.

Friday August 23. Informal Gathering at the Yee's. Join David & Sue as they show some slides of past field trips. Bring your favorite desert and, if you so desire, 5-10 of your favorite nature oriented slides. Starts at 7:30 at 6035 Kermit Lane, off Swain Road east of El Dorado. Call David or Sue at 951-1526 or 466-3337 for information

Wednesday Sept 4. Stockton Audubon Board Meeting. 7:30pm. Call Kathy Schick for more information at 464-7083.

Saturday August 24. Lodi Lake Area. The fall migration of landbirds will be starting and this is a good area. Join Kurt Mize at 7:00am in the parking lot of Lodi Lake off Turner Road for this morning trip. Call 957-0676 for further information.

Saturday-Sunday Sept. 7-8. Monterey Bay Field Trip. For birding diversity, Monterey during the fall can't be beat. Saturday will include Moss Landing, the Wharf, Pt. Pinos and the Carmel River. Sunday will be a 7 hour boat trip to observe pelagic birds and marine mammals. The cost of the trip is \$25.00 and space is limited so reserve your spot early by sending your deposit to David Yee, 6035 Kermit Lane, Stockton 95207. Make checks out to David, camping is available. For more information, call David at 466-3337 or 951-1526. ♦

Tuesday September 10. STOCKTON AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP MEETING. To start the season we will have a potluck at 6:30. Bring your favorite dish and your place setting to Central United Methodist Church in Stockton. Following dinner our speaker will be Phil Kahler who will show slides of the National Audubon Society Expedition Institute in which he has been a student for the last two years. Mark your calendar.

Watering Dates for the Oak Grove. July 13 and July 27. Aug 10 and Aug 24 Sept 7 and Sept 21. Call Kathy at 4647083 or Lois at 477-8357.

JUNIOR AUDUBON CLUBS IN COUNTY CLASSROOMS

National Audubon began a new Junior Audubon program this 1984-1985 school year, actually in the classrooms. Stockton Audubon Society supplied partial funding and support for 8 classrooms throughout the county as a pilot program. The nearly 240 Junior Auduboners in the county this year are mostly 5th grade from Tracy, Manteca and Stockton. Each classroom has received "Audubon Adventure" newsletters for each student bimonthly along with a teacher's guide and lesson plan. Each "Audubon Adventure" is a small newspaper with photos, sketches, articles, games, and puzzles. Along with the April issue (which featured John James Audubon) each classroom received a poster of Audubon. Also this spring a certificate of membership was presented to each classroom personally by our Hoot Owl editor, Steve Stocking. To back up this project the Board also acquired some resource materials to be shared by teachers.

The one fourth grade classroom found the newsletter a bit too challenging reading. However, the fifth graders were all interested in the program and many of the teachers were able to work it into their science curriculum. For more information on Junior Audubon, call Kathy Schick (464-0983 or 473-3290 or Cindy Geer (463-8305).

ENDANGERED SPECIES FUNDING NEEDS YOUR HELP

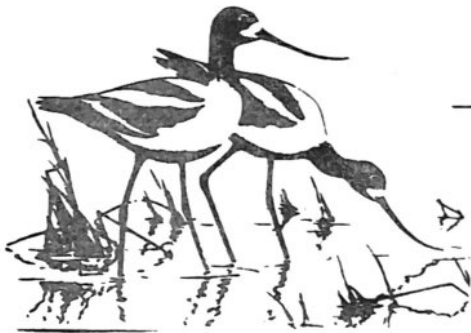
Just two years ago Assemblyman Bob Campbell successfully carried legislation to allow taxpayers to "Checkoff" a donation on their income tax form to the state's rare and endangered species fund. The Department of Fish and Game has received over a million dollars in contributions from these donations, making it possible to greatly increase efforts to protect our rare and endangered plant and animal species.

One problem with the program is that the taxpayer donations are not tax deductible. In most states with these programs the donations are deductible, and the amounts given are quite a bit larger than they have been here. Now Assemblyman Frank Vicencia is carrying legislation which would make the donations deductible. This law, if signed by the Governor, would probably double the rate of contributions to the rare and endangered species fund. Unfortunately the State Department of Finance opposes this beneficial legislation on shortsighted fiscal grounds. The actual loss of revenue to the State would be miniscule in the context of the state's budget. Letters to the Governor are needed asking him to sign AB47 when it reaches his desk. Point out in your letter the tremendous public support for this program, and the very small cost to the State in lost taxes (est. \$200,000). You can write the Governor at the State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814.

PASS THE BOTTLE BILL: WRITE YOUR ASSEMBLY MEMBER TODAY

Today more than 20% of the Nation's population benefits from beverage container deposit laws in their states. AB 2020 by Assemblyman Burt Margolin would provide all Californians with the benefits of the bottle bill. The nine states which currently have deposit laws are witness to the widespread support these laws enjoy in their states. We in California can also see the results this type of legislation generates. First, in all nine states there has been a reduction of both beverage container litter and total litter, averaging 80% and 40% respectively. This helps reduce the pressure for more landfill capacity...a local concern. In addition, litter pick-up costs have been reduced up to 58% as a result of deposit laws. Passage of a bottle bill in California would also create jobs in the recycling and handling industries, especially for truck drivers, retail clerks, and recycling industry workers. Costs to farmers would be reduced because litter damages farm equipment tires, makes valuable livestock fodder unusable, and causes injury to livestock.

Please write or call your Assemblyman today



(3)

Unless otherwise mentioned, all sightings are by David Yee. CH is Corral Hollow Rd., LL is Lodi Lake. OG is Oak Grove Park and SSP is Stockton Sewage Ponds.

4-27 found a Canyon Wren, 3 Phainopepla, a W. Tanager & 2 MacGillivray's Warblers at CH. 10 Semipalmated Plovers, 2 Short-billed Dowitcher & 4 Wilson's Phalarope were at Tracy Sewage Ponds the same day. The following were all at Lodi Lake on 4-30; 3 Wood Duck, 2 Blk-chinned Hummers, a Hutton's Vireo, 15 Warbling Vireo, 5

Orange-cr Warbler, 3 Nashville Warbler, 8 Townsend's Warbler, 10 Wilson's Warbler, 10 Pine Siskin and a Lawrence's Goldfinch. 2 Chipping Sparrow were at OG on 5-1. Back at LL on 5-2 were an Olive-sided Flycatcher, a Hermit Warbler and 4 Yellow Warblers. On the same day a Semipalmated Sandpiper was at Lodi Sewage Treatment Ponds. 5-3 found a pair of Swainson's Hawks at nest, 5 West Wood-peewee, 2 West. Flycatcher, a Swainson's Thrush and 4 Lazuli Bunting at O.G. 5-4 found 2 Gray Flycatchers, 2 Sage Sparrows, a Golden Eagle and a Costa's Hummer at CH and a Black Tern at Durham Ferry. On 5-7 there was a Blue Grosbeak and an Evening Grosbeak at Lodi Lake. 5-9 David found a Horned Grebe and a Yellow-br Chat at Camanche Res. and a Willet a 3 Red-necked Phalarope at the SSP. 5-17 a pair of Redhead were at SSP. Also on 5-17 Stocking observed a West Wood Peewee at OG. and on 5-18 a W. Tanager and one of the W.C. Sparrows in the area. Back to David who also saw a Mew Gull at SSP on 5-17. On 5-18 the Stockings observed a Screech Owl in their Stockton yard. At Oak Grove Park we took a short bird walk before the PICNIC and saw, among others, the Swainson's Hawk, Tanager and the beautiful Lazuli Buntings eating thistle seed. (5-19) On 5-21 S. Stocking observed the Yellow-headed Blackbirds near Bellota. Woops!, left out our trip to Del Puerto Canyon on 5-11 when a group of 13 participants observed 2 adult Golden Eagle, 2 Yellow-breasted Chat and a Prairie Falcon (report by George Welch). 5-23 David observed 2 Willow Flycatcher at CH. Our joint trip with Modesto Audubon on 5-25 drew a large group of participants with at least 18 from Stockton and more than that number from Modesto. We observed Tree Swallows nesting and Blue Grosbeaks as well as Burrowing Owl and many other birds. On June 4 David observed 2 Blue-winged Teal and 9 Lesser Scaup at SSP. On 6-7 a Swallow-tailed Gull was at Monterey. 6-13 a Western Sandpiper at SSP as well as a Least Tern. 6-15 George Welch noted many Wilson Phalarope at SSP. and he and David observed a nesting Red-tail with 2-3 young south-east of Stockton. 6-14 also had a Great-horned Owl observed at the Oak Grove by Steve Stocking and Karl Kothe. 6-15 at the Oak Grove there was a Yellow-billed Magpie eating voles! 18 members of Stockton Audubon escaped the valley heat on 6-16 by tripping to Calaveras Big Trees State Park where they observed Black-headed and Evening Grosbeak, R.B. Sapsucker, R.B. Nuthatch, Br. Creeper and some interesting wildflowers and insects. On June 18 Steve Stocking noted a lone Barn Swallow at Delta College. SEND YOUR SUMMER SIGHTINGS TO THE EDITOR OR TO DAVID YEE before the end of August.

GOLDEN TROUT WORKSHOP. Three one-week workshops will be held in the S. Sierra from July 28-August 17. These are sponsored by 6 Audubon Societies and offer an informal field natural history program in the Golden Trout Wilderness at an altitude of 10,000 feet. For details call Cindi McKernan 714/793-7897 or write to 40 Sherril Lane, Redlands, CA 92373.

WANTED: SIGHTINGS OF COLOR-BANDED OSPREY FROM THE DESCHUTES NATIONAL Forest, Oregon. Check for blue, red, yellow, green, black, orange, and silver bands. Send all information to Osprey Study, Oregon Dept. Fish and Wildlife, Nongame Division, 61374 Parrell Rd / Bend Oregon 97702.