



THE HOOT OWL

STOCKTON AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol 27 #3

Calendar



May-June '89

Saturday May 13. STOCKTON AUDUBON ANNUAL PICNIC. To be held at the Sycamore Picnic Area of Oak Grove Park. At 8am there will be a bird walk through the park led by David Yee. At 10am there will be a brunch. Bring your favorite dish to share and your table setting (reusable materials of course). After brunch there will be a short business meeting.

Saturday May 20. FIELD TRIP: Electra Road/ Middle Bar Road. These areas near the Mokelumne River south of Jackson have become favorites...for good reason. Pigmy-owl, Dipper, C. Mergansers, MacGillivray's Warblers, nesting Yellow Warblers. The area is scenic, lush and soothing to the soul. Bring plenty of water and a lunch for this dynamite trip. Leader: Waldo Holt. call 462-4438 for meeting time and place.

Saturday June 3. FIELD TRIP: Big Trees State Park. To stalk the elusive Pileolated Woodpeckers and the reclusive Ghost Orchids. Short walks through the woods. Possible longer hike Sunday if enough participants wish to stay overnight, individual arrangements. Call leader Steve Stocking at 4652729 for details. Meet at North-Grove parking area at 9:30am Saturday.

Sunday June 4 EARTH DAY. Oak Grove Park Stockton. 1 to 5 pm. Sponsor: Peace and Justice Network. To help with an Audubon Booth call Kathy Schick at 464-7083

Friday June 16. XERCES SOCIETY BUTTERFLY COUNT. This unique activity will be starting at Oak Grove Park at 7:30 am. Call Kathy Schick for particulars. 464-7083.

SATURDAY June 17. FIELD TRIP: Caswell State Park/ Durham Ferry. These rich riparian areas along the Stanislaus & San Joaquin Rivers allow us to see some of the best nesting species that occur in our county. We'll be looking for Swainson's & Cooper's Hawks, Blue Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, and many others. Come prepared with water and lunch. Meet lead Terry Ronneberg at the entrance to Caswell at 8:00 am. 835-7847 (Tracy)
(There are no meetings in June, July or August, but there are field trips to come.)

A TIP OF THE HAT

.....To Lt. Jeff Hislop of the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department. Jeff regularly watches the resident peregrine falcon which has been inhabiting the Great American Savings Building in downtown Stockton. He noticed that the sign on which the bird regularly sits was being replaced. So he called the bank to register a complaint about what was going on. We Auduboners are not the only ones who appreciate the beauty of this bird. When John Schick stopped by to thank Jeff for his efforts, Jeff indicated that he thought he had seen a male companion for the peregrine in the downtown area, noticing that the second bird was smaller than the one usually seen. Jeff also indicated that there is a problem with one of our newer immigrants from Southeast Asia regularly shooting red tailed hawks for food. From his position as a law enforcement person, he sees this problem often. Perhaps an education program should be undertaken to teach people that there are laws which protect these birds. Any volunteers?



We have been busy in your Audubon Chapter the last few months. Some great programs and vitalizing field trips have been enjoyed by your fellow members. Come and join our friendly group! We are working steadily to increase awareness of Audubon in San Joaquin County by having a booth or table at four events:

1. International Peace & Friendship Day
2. Conservation Day at Oak Grove Park
3. Senior Awareness Day
4. Earth Day

If you could help staff a booth for a couple of hours, please let me know (Vic Wykoff, 466-6000). On your behalf I attended an Audubon California Leadership Conference in Davis in early April. Our state's Audubon Chapters are thriving with enthusiasm. The atmosphere at the meeting was intense with upbeat environmental and ecological positivism. My one wish for each of you who read this message is that you personally write one letter every month to your State Senator or Assemblyman or federal Senator or Congressperson or National Forest Service or State Department of Fish & Game, etc. etc. and urge them to support whatever conservation issue you feel strongly about at that time. For example, Clean Air, Mountain Lion Protection, Clean Water, Riparian Habitat, Old Growth Forests, California Desert Protection, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, and many more. Do it just because you feel good about it--that alone is enough to get positive results if many of us are doing the same thing !!!

Vic Wykoff Stockton Audubon President



AUDUBON ADVENTURES PROGRAM

Educators for grades 3 to 6 who are interested in conservation and environmental education are invited to enroll their classroom for the Audubon Adventure Program. Each student will receive six issues of Audubon Adventures and each teacher will receive a Leader's Guide of background information. Our Chapter will sponsor a limited number of classroom subscriptions. Please contact education chairperson Nancy Ballot at 465-94621 after 5pm.

JOIN THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Many Audubon chapters our size have a conservation committee instead of a single "Conservation Chairman" for the purposes of sharing the work as well as sharing the fun. There are many exciting activities which Stockton Audubon has become involved with in the past few years, and it seems fair that we should allow the excitement and joy to be shared.

For the past year Stockton Audubon has been involved in our area's planning process. We have received Environmental Impact Reports from cities and the county for our comments. These documents can be fascinating reading, and the ensuing hearings even more so.

We have been asked to join with Sacramento Audubon in their efforts to save Stone Lake and we have joined with Stanislaus Audubon in a group dedicated to cleaning up the San Joaquin River. We are working with the local Sierra Club group in an effort to find a natural area to replace, in part, what has been lost at Brovelli Woods.

Because of our planning involvement we have joined the Land Use Alliance, a network of groups concerned with Land Use Planning. At the present we are the only wildlife habitat group which has joined LUA. LUA has recently made a settlement on the Spanos Park lawsuit which gained them a great deal of money to be spent on environmental concerns. Now we need to have SEVERAL Audubon members take an active part in LUA so that our concerns about wildlife habitat can be understood.

We hope to have committee meetings every other month, at a time to be arranged around all our schedules. ARE YOU INTERESTED? Call Vic Wykoff (466-6000) or Kathy Schick (464-7083).

BIRD-A-THON A SUCCESS

The recent bird-a-thon organized by David Yee was a great success. All teams saw from a minimum of 70 to a maximum of 150 species. The proceeds will be used to further the good works of Stockton Audubon. Thanks to the teams led by David Yee (most bird species seen etc), George Welch, John Schick, Dave Wagner, and Steve Stocking (fewest miles driven). If you have paid your pledge, thank you; if not, lets get it in. We hope to have a more detailed article when all the money and other details are in.

BIRDS

Mar. 1, 125 Forster's Tern, Stockton Waterfront. a Cinnamon X Blue-winged Teal Hybrid at SSP.
 Mar. 4, 8 Mt. Bluebirds near Brovelli Woods, A. Avocet at Thornton. Mar. 5, 4,000 Snow Geese,
 50 Ross' Geese, 50 Cackling Canada Geese at Upper Jones Tract. Mar. 5 a Cooper's Hawk at Oak
 Grove Park, K. Kothe. Mar. 5, 3 Barn Swallow at Upper Jones Tract. Mar. 8 8 Rufous Hummers at
 Stockton Rural Cemetary. Mar. 9. A Franklin's Gull & a Little Gull at SSP. Mar. 10, many Sandhill
 Cranes flying north over Murphey, a. The Harpera. Mar. 11 , a Lesser Golden Plover at LSP and the
 Bendire's Thrasher at Acampo. Mar. 18. Turkeys displaying and 20 Canada Geese flying north
 over Mt. Ranch, the Stockings. Mar. 20 a Wh-th Swift, a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, 18 Purple Finches,
 and a Lawrence's Goldfinch at LL. Mar. 20 a Fox Sparrow in Nancy Greenwoods Stockton yard.
 Mar. 22 a Horned Grebe at LSP, Mar 23 a Wilson's Warbler at LL. Mar. 25 .5 Thayer's Gull, a
 Glaucous-winged Gull, a Calliope Hummer, 5 West. Flycatcher, a W. Kingbird, a Violet-gr.,
 Swallow, and 500 Tri-Colored Blackbirds all at Corral Hollow Road. Mar. 29 a Bullock's Oriole at LL.
 April 1 a Sage Thrasher in Hospital Canyon. Ap. 2 20 White Pelicans over the Coosumes Preserve
 by Geo. Welch. Ap. 5 a Merlin, a Hammond's Flycatcher, 5 Solitary Vireos, a Nashville Warbler, a
 Black-h Grosbeak, a White-wh Sparrow at Lodi Lake and a Ruddy Turnstone at SSP. Ap. 7 a
 Warbling Vireo at LL. Apl. 14 a Robin attempting to build a nest of azalea flowers, during a
 stiff breeze, S. Stocking. Apl. 15 , Ibis, Wh. Pelicans, Gadwall, etc etc at Sante Fe Grade Rd in
 Merced County by Stockings Natural History Class. Apl. 16 Swainsons Hawk in Oak Tree on
 Wilson Way near Diverting Canal., Stockings. Apl. 23 24 Wh. Pelicans flying east over Mt. Ranch
 by S.K. Stocking. Apl. 27 Burrowing Owl (1) and Swainsons Hawk near Mall in Stockton. J. Schick.

The Coosumes River Preserve count of March 11 noted 57 species and a total of 636 birds. The
 April 8 count noted 508 birds of 72 species. Highlights were 4 Swainson's Hawk, three different
 "kettles" of White Pelicans, a Northern Oriole and a Common Moorhen. These reported by John
 Schick, for a more complete report...or to help with the census call John at: 464-7083.



LL is Lodi Lake
 SSP is Stockton Sewage Pond
 LSP is Lodi Sewage Ponds

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DMP

Weekend Wildflowers

Leader: Stephen Stocking

This field session will study the wildflowers of plant communities of the Grant Grove area of Kings Canyon National Park. Participants will be guided on easy nature walks to meadows, ridges, streamside, forests and sequoia groves. The recommended text is *A Sierra Nevada Flora* by Weeden or *Sierra Flower Finder* by Keator.

STEPHEN STOCKING is an instructor of biology-botany at San Joaquin Delta College in Stockton, California. He is the author of *Wildflowers of Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks*.

Please return this form and make checks payable to the:

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Minor (under 18 years)

June 17-18 1989

THE DAVID GAINES SIERRA SCHOLARSHIP

The Golden Trout Committee is pleased to announce the David Gaines Sierra Scholarship. Because David educated and touched so many people about the beauty and natural history of the Sierra Nevada, we would like to continue by providing a scholarship to an individual for attendance at a one-week session (date of the awardees choice) at the Golden Trout Workshop. Application is open to anyone who enjoys and is interested in the conservation of the Sierra Nevada. To apply, please submit a 300 word essay regarding your interest in the Sierra Nevada. Deadline to apply is June 1, 1989. Application should be sent to Cindi McKernan, 1230 Friar Lane, Redlands, Ca. 92373.

Joint membership in the National Audubon Society and the Stockton Audubon Society includes a subscription to both Audubon magazine and The Hoot Owl. Make check payable to: National Audubon Society and send to Stockton Audubon Society c/o John Schick 940 N. Argonaut, Stockton Ca. 95204. Send renewals directly to the National Audubon Society.

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| _____ \$38 family | _____ \$500 donor | _____ \$21 senior |
| _____ \$50 sustaining | _____ \$1,500 life | _____ \$23 senior, family |

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

STOCKTON AUDUBON SOCIETY
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Stockton, Ca. 95204

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