

Field Trips, July 12 through Aug 11, 2019, Scheduler Craig DeMartini, 916-599-3300, cloudwalk7@icloud.com

Friday, July 12, Depart 7am

Cabbage Patch, Calaveras County

Leader: Bill Bianco, 916-889-4849, biancowm@yahoo.com

Bill will bird the Ramsey Fire (Sept. 2012) site at 6600 ft. elevation, located in eastern Calaveras County, about 2 - 2.5 hour drive from the meeting site. Plan on walking the fire roads, which will be downhill access and uphill return to the parking area with an elevation difference of 500 ft (moderate difficulty). Looking for woodpeckers, Western Tanagers, and other passerine birds and depending on time additional birding can be at Stanislaus River campground. Trip will last until late afternoon, so bring lunch, liquids, sunscreen, insect repellent, and bring FRS radios and scopes if you have them. Meet at the Galt Park & Ride. From Sacramento take Hwy 99 south to Twin Cities Rd/Hwy 104, Exit #277; turn left (east) on Twin Cities; cross the freeway and turn right (south) on Stockton Blvd. The Park & Ride is just south of Twin Cities Road.

Saturday, July 13, 7:30am

American River Parkway, Spanos Court Access

Leader: Dan Kopp, 916-213-2791, rey_ality@hotmail.com

Join Dan for a leisurely walk on the north side of the river across from the Paradise Beach area. This area is fairly typical of most Parkway locations, but has an overabundance of grapes and slightly less blackberry and elderberry which helps attract fruit lovers such as Western Tanager and Black-headed Grosbeak. We will likely encounter several riparian species such as Spotted Sandpiper, Killdeer, Song Sparrow, Belted Kingfisher, Bewick's Wren, Spotted Towhee, as well as California Quail. We will also likely encounter Purple Martins with young in tow, as this is the main spot along the lower American River where martins are known to assemble. The trip will probably end late morning before the intense heat of the day. Meet Dan in the parking area at the end of the Spanos Court cul-de-sac along the levee. Spanos Court runs west off Howe Avenue between Northrup and Sierra Blvd.

Sunday, July 14, 7:30am

William B. Pond Park

Leader: Rachael Cowan, 916-390-3420, RachaelC@SacNatureCenter.net

This park has a great variety of habitat for birds; grassland, oak woodland, riparian, and open water pond. California Quail, Western Bluebirds, Western Kingbirds, Ash-throated Flycatchers, wrens, towhees, herons, egrets and other water birds are all possible. Trip will end by noon. This is an excellent trip for beginners. From the intersection of Fair Oaks and Arden, follow Arden east, just under 1 mile, and it runs into the park. Meet Rachael along the first parking area on your left, just after the kiosk. A Sac County Park Pass or \$5 entry fee is required for all vehicles.

Wednesday, July 17, evening trip

Bats and Swainson's Hawks

Leader: Dan Brown, naturestoc@aol.com

Join Dan, along with bat expert, JoEllen Arnold to see 60,000 Mexican Free-tailed bats emerge for their evening hunt while Swainson's Hawks and American Kestrels try their luck and skill at bat hunting! This trip is limited to 12 participants. Please email Dan Brown for meeting time and place.

Saturday, July 20, 6:30am

Carson Pass and Lake Winnemucca

Leaders: Gary Fregien, 916-708-0636, calaveri.gary@gmail.com

Scott Hoppe, 916-835-8471, shoppe01@surewest.net

Join Gary and Scott on this high elevation 3-mile hike in search of Clark's Nutcracker, Rufous Hummingbird, Green-tailed Towhee, Chipping & Brewer's Sparrow, Dusky Flycatcher, Pine Grosbeak, Townsend's Solitaire, Cassin's Finch and, with luck, Sooty Grouse, Black-backed Woodpecker and Gray-crowned Rosy Finch. At peak wildflower time there are fields of flowers in dazzling variety. Bring lunch and plenty of liquids; wear sturdy shoes and be prepared for changeable Sierra weather. Carson Pass is a USFS fee area for day-use parking. This hike should be considered moderate to strenuous depending upon your physical condition. Meet at the south side of the Bella Bru parking lot in the Raley's shopping center in El Dorado Hills. From Hwy 50 east take Exit #30B; turn right on El Dorado Hills Blvd. and go north under the freeway to the shopping center on your right.

Saturday, July 20th, 4pm meeting time

Family Friendly Trip & Beginners Too!

Yuba Gap Evening Bird Walk

Leaders: Sandra Steurer, 916-580-8398, sasteurer@yahoo.com

Sue Darst, 530-902-3427, sue.darst51@gmail.com

Come look for mountain birds and the Common Nighthawks. Meet at 3pm at the Horseshoe Bar Road Park & Ride in Loomis, Exit #110 off I-80. Bring a sack dinner or snacks, lots of water and comfortable shoes, a light coat for the evening and MOSQUITO REPELLENT. This is a good trip for newer birders and experienced birders alike. Loaner binoculars will be available.

Please RSVP to sasteurer@yahoo.com or text to 916-580-8398.

Sunday, July 21

Dragonfly Trip Location: TBD

Leader: Tim Manolis, 916-485-9009, Ylightfoot@aol.com

Most likely Tim will try Bear Creek for Giant Darners, etc., but since the weather will affect the best location to see a variety of dragonfly species he will scout his favorite haunts and choose the exact meeting location as the date approaches. E-mail Tim the week before the trip to get the time and meeting place, or phone him the day before. With his expertise as the author of a field guide to California dragonflies and damselflies, you can be sure that he will lead you to the best possible site. Bring your binoculars, water to drink and wear shoes that can get wet—just in case.

Tuesday, July 23, 7am

River Bend Park

Leader: Dan Brown, naturestoc@aol.com

Join Dan for a walk through the oak woodland to the river, looking for our summer birds. This is a good trip for beginning birders. The trip will end before noon. From Folsom Blvd, between Bradshaw and Mather Field Road, take Rod Beaudry Drive north into the park, take the first right after passing the kiosk and drive to the end of that parking area. A Sac County Park Pass or \$5 entry fee is required for all vehicles.

Saturday, July 27, 9am (in Petaluma)

North Bay Area Birding

Leader: Ron Storey, 707-479-0171, ronstorey@ronstorey.com

Join Ron Storey and bird parts of the North Bay. This trip is a good trip for beginners who would like to bird away from the Sacramento heat. The destination(s) will be determined by what is being reported and the weather. Meet at Shollenberger Park in Petaluma at 9:00 am and carpool from there. For directions go here:

http://colintalcroft.com/Sonoma_County_Bird_Watching_Spots/Shollenberger_Park,_Petaluma.html. Bring a lunch and snacks, as this is an all day trip. Be prepared for both cool and hot weather; bring clothing that will be suitable for both conditions.

Saturday, July 28, 7am

Tells Creek, Van Vleck Meadow

Leader: Craig Swolgaard, 530-334-3023, cswol@sbcglobal.net

This trip will explore a little birded part of the Sierra Nevada off Ice House Road at over 6000 feet. Tells Creek flows through Van Vleck meadow just west of the Desolation Wilderness. A trailhead for equestrians and hikers begins at the parking lot but we will follow a road that circles the meadow itself. This is a good spot to see a variety of Sierra Nevada birds including Lazuli Bunting, MacGillvray's Warbler, Purple and Cassin's Finch, Green-tailed Towhee, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Lincoln's Sparrow, Brown Creeper, and others. Five years ago an Indigo Bunting spent most of the summer there. Meet at Craig's house in Georgetown (El Dorado County) at 7AM and car pool from there. Address is 2884 Church Street, one block over from Main Street. Georgetown is about an hour from Sacramento and can be found on Google Map for directions. This trip will last into the early afternoon so bring a lunch and water. Hiking is easy and fairly level.

Tuesday, July 30, 7am

Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area

Leader: Maureen Geiger, 916-281-6652, mkgeiger@comcast.net

Join Maureen for a morning drive around this diverse area just a few minutes from downtown Sacramento. The variety of species and numbers of birds especially with regard to shorebirds will depend on the amount of water available. If the YBWA is too dry, we will scout alternate local Yolo County sites. Spotting scopes and FRS radios are useful. From Sacramento on I-80 west, take the first exit at the west end of the Yolo Causeway, East Chiles/Rd.32A, Exit #78. Turn right at the stop sign, go under the freeway, make a left up onto the levee; then drop down into the Wildlife Area. The trip begins at the first parking lot, Lot A, on your left. This trip will end before noon.

Saturday, August 3, 5pm

Birds and Bats at the Yolo Basin

Leaders: Dan Williams, 714-943-1266, jaegermaestro@yahoo.com

Mary Schiedt, 530-400-7094, maryolo1@netscape.net

Join Dan and Yolo Basin bat volunteer Mary Schiedt for a combination bird-and-bat field trip to Yolo Basin. This walk combines the early evening appearance of Barn Owls, Great-horned Owls (and possibly Short-eared Owls and nighthawks) with the later emergence of 250,000 Mexican free-tailed bats for their evening hunt. There is also the possibility of predation by Peregrine Falcons and Swainson's Hawks. FRS radios can be helpful. Bring water, insect repellent, and a light jacket. From Sacramento on I-80 west, take the first exit at the west end of the Yolo Causeway, East Chiles/Rd. 32A, Exit #78. Turn right at the stop sign, go under the freeway, make a left up onto the levee; then drop down into the Wildlife Area. The trip begins at the first parking lot, Lot A, on your left.

Sunday, August 4, 7:30am

Mather Lake

Leader: Wayne Blunk, 916-206-3767, wayne.blunk@gmail.com

Join Wayne to explore Mather Lake and the surrounding grasslands, which host a variety of birds and is one of his favorite birding spots. This is a good trip for beginners and enjoyable for all. Bring water and insect repellent. Meet in the parking lot of Mather Regional Park; from

Highway 50 go south on Zinfandel, Exit #17, about 2-1/2 miles. After crossing Douglas Blvd, take the first left into the park area. A Sac County Park Pass or \$5 entry fee is required for all vehicles.

Monday, August 5, 7:30am

Effie Yeaw Nature Center

Leaders: Bob McCleary, 916-960-3390, bobmccleary@comcast.net

Linda Melching, 916-934-3969, lmelch1122@aol.com

Bob is a docent at the Nature Center and knows the trails, and where to find the birds. On this morning walk he'll be looking for both summer and resident birds. Meet him in the Nature Center parking lot in Ancil Hoffman Park. This is a good trip for beginners as well as more experienced birders. For directions, see sacnaturecenter.net. A Sac County Park Pass or \$5 entry fee is required for all vehicles.

Saturday, August 10, 8am

Sierra Valley and Yuba Pass

Leader: John York, 530-320-4751, johnnyork157@yahoo.com

Meet at The Fork and Horn parking lot in Sierraville, corner of Lincoln St and Main. at 8am, to bird the valley floor and then the pass. Bring snack, lunch and liquids as we have no scheduled eating stops. This trip will take most of the day. The highlights should be the young mountain birds, woodpeckers and warblers, although the valley can turn up some great birds as well. If you want to caravan from the Denny's at Newcastle, please contact John so he can meet you there. **Please RSVP to John so he knows to look for you at either rendezvous point.**

Sunday, August 11, 7:30am

American River Parkway: Harrington Access

Leaders: Guy Galante, 916-995-0625, guy@create-roc.com

Mike Heacox, 916-972-1809, mikezots@gmail.com

Craig DeMartini, 916-599-3300, cloudwalk7@icloud.com

This unique field trip will encompass all-around nature observation; flora and fauna, tracking/trailing, weather observation, and using all the senses. Apply sunscreen, bring a hat and water. From Watt Avenue take American River Drive east 2.5 miles to Harrington Way, turn right and continue 1/4 mile to the river. From Fair Oaks Blvd take Arden Way east 1/4 mile, turn right on Kingsford and continue straight for one mile to the river. A Sac County Park Pass or \$5 entry fee is required for all vehicles.