

The Observer

Sacramento Audubon Society



VOLUME 71 • NO. 6

JUNE 2019

Farallon Islands Pelagic Trip

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATION
SUNDAY, JULY 14, 2019**

Sacramento Audubon Society is sponsoring our annual pelagic trip off the coast of San Francisco to the Farallon Islands. This will be the 29th year SAS has sponsored this trip, and every trip is different! We'll travel out under the Golden Gate and cruise around Southeast Farallon Island, one of San Francisco's "desert islands" and part of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Time permitting, we will go out to the continental shelf.

This is a great trip to see new birds to add to your life list. We will have several experts on board to help spot and identify birds. We should see many species that are usually



Brown Booby
Linda Pittman

only seen offshore or as a tiny speck in your scope from the shore! Highlights from previous trips include Tufted Puffin, Cassin's and Rhinoceros Auklets, Pigeon Guillemot, Black-Footed Albatross, Brown and Blue-footed Booby, Northern Gannet, Sooty Shearwater, three species of cormorants, and Northern Fulmar. Join us and discover for yourself!

A naturalist will give a brief pre-departure presentation and will be with us all

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EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATES

Environmental Conservation Tips

Education Committee members are launching a new series called Environmental Conservation Tips. The series begins with this Observer issue. Each upcoming issue will include a tip and reminder that any positive steps taken to protect the environment make a difference. Do you have a tip, idea, or suggestion to share? If so, send it to www.education@sacramentoaudubon.org.

Environmental TIP for June

Pick up reusable cloth bags to use at your local grocery store. Some agencies estimate that it will take up to a thousand years for plastic bags to degrade. Paper bags (although recyclable), are also cause for concern. Millions of trees are cut down in the USA each year to be made into paper. Removal of trees disrupts an ecosystem, and destroys habitats and food for some birds and animals.

Environmental Education Program

Thanks to Sheila Green for continuing to bring meaningful classroom sessions to Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps students. Classroom topics include Bird Identification Techniques and Common Birds of Sacramento, followed by related activities and observations outside the classroom at John Muir Charter School.

Special thanks also to field trip leaders Maureen Geiger, Ken Poehler, Larry Hickey and Mark Martucci for volunteering their time to support the program. Maureen and Ken led a group at Bobelaine Sanctuary, while Larry and Mark's trip was at Effie Yeaw Nature Center. Sometimes the students seem disinterested or lowkey, but the leaders know how to "pique their interest" by explaining some birds' unusual behavior. Each trip experience has a different outcome, but there is never a doubt that important seeds are planted.

2019-20 Committee Goals

Education Committee members are moving forward on 2019-20 goals – supported by board members. Key goals include those listed below;

- Work with Conservation Committee to support the Purple Martins' Relocation Project.
- Mentor by doing locally to support conservation efforts.
- Continue scheduling and promoting family and kid friendly trips to reach more people in the local Sacramento area
- Work with other organizations like the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) to plan joint trips
- Expand outreach to schools and other organizations for participation in Nature Bowl 2020
- Explore opportunities to assist teens form a local birding club.

The committee will also continue presentations to community organizations and schools upon request and through outreach efforts. Members are Bill Bianco, Sue Darst, Maureen Geiger, Sheila Green, Cathie La Zier, Wendy Money, Sandra Steurer, Heather White, and Gesna Clarke, Chair.

Are you looking for a Sacramento Audubon Society committee to join? Consider the Education Committee! To learn more email www.education@sacramentoaudubon.org, or phone Gesna Clarke at 916-343-6303.

Field Trip Findings

Dragonfly Trip (5/11) — Leader Tim Manolis reported: “Had a nice walk along the Parkway behind Rio Americano High School, my usual spot. 6 folks aside from me. High, fast and cold water flows on the river have sort of kept odonate emergence at low levels, though. We saw 6 species of damselflies, including the California endemic Exclamation Damsel. The other damsels seen were Pacific and Western Forktails, Tule and Arroyo Bluets, and Vivid Dancer. But dragonflies, other than darners, were scarce. We saw Common Green and California Darners and a single Flame Skimmer—and that was it! Also found a rattlesnake!”

Falcon Crest (5/8) — Leader Craig DeMartini reported: “We had a very successful day at Falcon Crest. The weather was ideal and many wildflowers were in bloom. Our first bird of the morning was a beautiful Lazuli Bunting singing out in the open. We were serenaded the whole day with a chorus of Townsend’s, Wilson’s, Yellow, and Orange-crowned Warblers, in competition with the wrens, towhees, Lark Sparrows, and titmouse. The Bald Eagles are always a hit; with their 2 nestlings seeking out the shaded side of their huge nest. Thanks to 12 alert birders, we totaled 50 species—averaging a new species every 5 minutes!”

Mather Field (5/5) — Leader Wayne Blunk reported: “Excellent weather for party of nine to list 54 species +. Highlights were Bullock’s Oriole and Hooded Oriole, female Lazuli Bunting, female Western Tanager, and a lingering White-crowned Sparrow. Great group.”

Beginning Birder trip, William Pond Park (5/5) — Larry Hickey, assisted by 3 co-leaders, led a group of 11 enthusiastic beginners on this morning walk. Favorites were scope looks at Yellow-billed Magpies, Cedar Waxwings, Great Blue Heron nestlings in the rookery and nesting Red-shouldered Hawks, one eating a lizard.

Driver’s Flat, Auburn SRA (5/4) — Leader Scott Hoppe reported: “It was a rather large group of 18 that joined me for this outing. The day started out with a glitch when we all turned off of Foresthill Road onto Drivers Flat Road only to encounter “Road Closed to Vehicles” signs. I directed the group to a parking area about 100 yards farther up Foresthill Rd. We regrouped and were able to walk in and enjoy a beautiful morning and some

good birding. Unfortunately, we could not reach the Ruck-a-Chucky location on the river, unless we were willing to endure a grueling 6 mile hike down and back up the river canyon (no one took me up on the offer). But spirits were high and we saw some good birds. Early on we had lots of bird activity, lingering long in spots just to get views of all the birds. Highlights here included Nashville, Black-throated Gray, Wilson’s and least 4 Townsend’s Warblers; Olive-sided Flycatcher and, unfortunately seen by only one of us, a Gray Flycatcher. Around mid day, many people dropped out, but a few of us continued on to several other locations, adding notables such as Brown Creeper and Yellow-breasted Chat. A woman who lived next to the park in the town of Foresthill had feeders, and we saw both Purple and Cassin’s Finches there. And Hairy Woodpeckers were nesting nearby. She invited us into her yard and said we could come back any time. We tallied about 60 species for the day.”

Sweetwater Creek (5/2) — Leaders Tim Fitzer and Ann Burris reported: Talk about attendance, 27 birders arrived for a morning walk up Sweetwater Creek. Thanks to Mark Martucci’s help we split into a couple of groups. Some of the highlights were: Yellow-breasted Chat, Lewis’s Woodpecker (1st record), Wilson, Townsend’s and Yellow Warblers, Hutton’s and Warbling Vireos, Phainopepla and California Thrasher. The turnout for this trip I think means we may need a third trip next year.”

Knickerbocker Creek (4/28) — Leader Timothy Jackson reported: “4 birders saw 42 species during a three and a half hour walk on a beautiful morning in the foothills. Highlights included Lazuli Bunting and Yellow-billed Magpie. The group observed a Green Heron in an unusual place (perched in a Gray Pine). The winds were calm until mid-day so the raptor activity was rather subdued. Tim pointed out a large Red Hot Poker plant near a historic trash tip from the thirties, forties, and fifties. The group spent a few minutes looking at rusting car parts and old appliances from the era while a resident House Wren flitted about. The area is former ranch land but now part of the Auburn State Recreation Area. The ebird checklist is at ebird.org/view/checklist/S55516921.”

Sweetwater Creek (4/27) — Leader Richard Barbieri reported: “It was a beautiful morning at Sweetwater Creek with a group of 15 people, many visiting this location for the first time. It wasn’t the birdiest day we ever had there but, all in all a pleasant trip. Highlights included several Black-headed Grosbeaks, Pacific-slope Flycatcher and Western Wood-Pewee, Hutton’s and Warbling Vireos, Wrentit, Nashville and Yellow Warblers, Western Tanager, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and Yellow-breasted Chat. Total for the day was 52 species.”

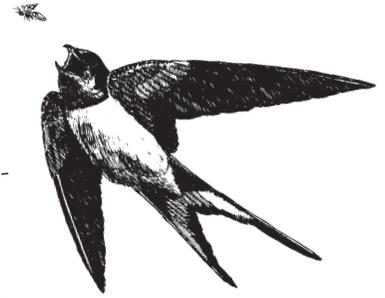
Teal Bend (4/23) — Leader Mark Martucci reported: “Eleven people saw 63 species of birds on this warm spring morning. Highlights included Hermit Warbler, Townsend’s Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Bullock’s Oriole, Chipping Sparrow, Warbling Vireo and Ash-throated Flycatcher.”

Sand Creek Road (4/21) — Leaders Tim Fitzer and Ann Burris reported: “It was a beautiful day, cool in the morning, hot and breezy in the afternoon. The trip began at the mouth of the canyon because when we scouted the trip the road was washed out at the 4th creek crossing. The road ended up being open to the top as it had been recently graded and the difficult creek crossing that prevented us from going to the top had been repaired. Some highlights were: Lawrence’s Goldfinches, California Thrasher, many Bullocks Orioles, Western Kingbirds, Black-headed Grosbeaks and Hutton’s Vireo. We all had a great day with several of the six participants seeing Lawrence’s goldfinches for the first time.”

Deer Creek (4/20) — Leader Gary Fregien reported: “An enthusiastic group of 20 birders braved a spring morning accentuated by wind and chill. But rewards soon followed. From our parking spot, a pair of Canada Geese honked by, and a pair of Wood Ducks waddled away through the grass. To our rear a shiny male Bullock’s Oriole appeared. The songs of Ash-throated Flycatcher and Western Bluebird occupied a nearby oak woodland. Soon we were watching a Downy Woodpecker, with its distinctive call that proved its identity. As we moved into the riparian habitat along Deer Creek, House Wrens

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Field Trips



Barn Swallow
Daniel Kilby

Field Trip Information

For questions regarding the trip or to check the status of the trip in case of unfavorable weather conditions, please call the trip leader first. For trips through June 11, contact the scheduler Cathie LaZier, empid@earthlink.net, 916-502-2699. For trips from June 12 through July 11, contact the scheduler Dan Brown, naturestoc@aol.com, 916-704-0951.

Due to insurance requirements, Sacramento Audubon leaders are not allowed to organize ridesharing/ carpools. Participants are, however, encouraged to voluntarily share rides. Any carpool arrangements are private agreements between the driver and the passengers. Drivers must carry adequate insurance coverage. Please be courteous and share gas expenses with the driver. FRS radios can be helpful on all trips. Starting times are the actual time the trip leaves the meeting place. Try to arrive early, especially if you want driving directions or plan to carpool. Groups must make prior arrangements with the trip leader. In case of INCLEMENT WEATHER contact the trip leader for trip status.

NOTE: Starting times are the actual time the trip leaves the meeting place

Saturday, June 1, 6:30am **Northern California River Walks** **Leader: Jane Taylor, 916-587-3366** **1jgtaylor@att.net**

Depending on conditions, we will try a riparian walk to look for late-spring birds and other critters. If it is not too hot, we can visit one or two sites along the Sacramento River but move up-slope if it is too hot down in the valley. Please be prepared for park or parking fees and bring liquids and snacks or lunch to get you through to early afternoon. Plan to meet at the Park and Ride near Brookfield's Restaurant In Roseville. From Sacramento on I-80, take the Eureka Road offramp (Exit 105A) and continue straight through the signal light at Eureka Road and you'll be on Taylor Road. Turn left just past the Shell Station, and park on the right in the Park and Ride. FRS radios may be helpful while en route.

Sunday, June 2, 7am **Crystal Basin** **Leaders: Phyllis Wilburn** **530-642-9942, abirder@aol.com** **Ann Burris, 916-947-7573** **burris.nellieann@gmail.com**

This trip will visit a variety of sites along Icehouse Road and side roads, looking for Lazuli Bunting, Green-tailed Towhee, Mountain Bluebird, warblers and vireos, and other birds of the area, including Calliope Hummingbird. Beautiful wildflowers may also be in bloom. Bring lunch, liquids, and footwear suitable for hiking. Walking distance will not be more than 1/2 mile. Both beginners and experienced birders are welcome. Meet Ann at the Bella Bru 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. You can also meet Phyllis at 8am in the Crystal Basin area. Take Hwy 50 to the Riverton Rd (Crystal Basin) turnoff. Turn left and drive a short distance to the large pullout on the left side of the road.

Thursday, June 6, 8am **Bannister Park to Sacramento Bar** **Leader: Stan Hunter, 530-902-8462** **stanton.hunter@gmail.com**

On this morning walk through the woods to the American River, you will see, and hear, a nice variety of resident birds and spring migrants. Possibilities include Phainopepla and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. This is a great trip for beginning and more experienced birders. Meet Stan in the parking lot at the end of Bannister Road, south off Fair Oaks Blvd, west of Sunrise Blvd.

FAMILY FRIENDLY TRIP **Saturday, June 8, 10:30am** **Hagan Park, Rancho Cordova** **Leader: Sheila Green, 916-813-1470** **raeshei@aol.com**

Join Sheila at the duck pond at Hagan Park in Rancho Cordova for a bird walk geared towards children, families and beginners. Bring water and snacks and dress in layers for variable weather. We will see birds in urban, park and riparian (river) habitats. Hagan Park, 2197 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, is near Hwy 50 and the Mather exit. Meet at the duck pond near the free parking area on the right just before the park entry kiosk.

Saturday and Sunday, June 8-9, 8am **onsite both Saturday and Sunday**

Sierra Valley/Yuba Pass **Leader: Gary Fregien 916-708-0636** **calaveri.gary@gmail.com**

This trip offering is designed to accommodate both those who want to do an overnigher and those wanting to bird either the Sierra Valley or the Yuba Pass area as a day trip. We will bird the Sierra Valley area by car on Saturday, a full day's excursion, including a very productive riparian stream zone adjacent to a previous wildfire located at the southern end of the valley near Loyaltown/Sierra Brooks. On Sunday we will bird the Yuba Pass area until early afternoon. Lodging is available in Truckee, Sierraville, Portola and Sierra City. US Forest Service campgrounds are located between Truckee and Sierraville on Hwy 89, and between Yuba Pass and Sierra City on Hwy 49. Meet Gary at the junction of Hwys 89 and 49 in Sierraville on Saturday, and/or at the Yuba Pass Sno-Park parking lot, at the summit, on Hwy 49 west of Sierra Valley on Sunday. Carpooling is encouraged. Bring along hand held radios, food and water, and dress for probable cool mornings and warm afternoons. If you need to, please contact Gary by mid-afternoon on Thursday, 6/6, as he will be unreachable after that time.

Sunday, June 9, 7:30am **Mather Field** **Leader: Wayne Blunk, 916-206-3767** **wayne.blunk@gmail.com**

Mather Lake is one of Wayne's favorite birding locations. Join him to look for a nice variety of resident birds. Targeted birds will be Yellow-headed Blackbirds, Black-headed Grosbeaks, White-tailed Kites, Wild

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Field Trips continued from page 3

Turkey and Green Heron. Meet Wayne in the parking lot of Mather Regional Park; from Douglas Road turn south on Zinfandel Dr, then turn left into the park for this morning trip. This is a wonderful trip for beginning birders. Parking is \$5; your Sac County Park Pass is good here.

Wednesday, June 12, 7am

Estates Drive American River access

Leader: Craig DeMartini

916-599-3300

cloudwalk7@icloud.com

We hope to get an early start on the day, as it could get hot. This area is a great example of established riparian habitat. The American River meanders, creating islands and ponds where we will look for Wood Ducks, herons, egrets, and kingfishers. Further inland there are several very old Valley Oaks along a trail that has been referred to as the Avenue of Giants, where we will look for towhees, wrens and nuthatches. From Watt Ave, take American River Drive east to Estates Drive. Turn south on Estates and follow until it dead-ends at the levee.

Saturday, June 15, 7am

Stevens Trail, near Colfax

Leader, Ben Graber, 916-844-8682

bgraber984@gmail.com

Join Ben for this trip to one of his favorite birding spots. He has seen Lazuli Buntings, Cassin's Vireos, Black-headed Grosbeaks and Canyon Wrens along the trail. This is a strenuous 8 mile round trip hike down to the American River, 4 miles down and 4 miles up, which is a 1400 foot elevation gain. Be sure to wear good walking or hiking shoes and bring liquids and snacks. This will be a half day trip. Meet at the Park and Ride by Brookfield's Restaurant, 1817 Taylor Road, in Roseville. From Sacramento on I-80, take the Eureka Road offramp, Exit #105A, and continue straight through the signal light at Eureka Road and you'll be on Taylor Road. Turn left just past the Shell Station, and park on the right in the Park and Ride.

Thursday, June 20, 7:30am

Lynch Canyon, Solano County

Leaders: Maureen Geiger

916-281-6652

mkgeiger@comcast.net

Ken Poerner, 707-580-6277

kenpoe@sbcglobal.net

This beautiful, 1,039-acre park just off I-80 in Solano County consists of rolling hills

with stands of native oak, buckeye and bay trees, small riparian corridors, panoramic vistas and, of course, wildflowers in June. Maureen and Ken will look for summer swallows, bluebirds and other song birds as well as resident harriers, hawks, woodpeckers, quail and ducks and shorebirds at the reservoir. Golden Eagles are regular visitors and are believed to nest in the upper reaches of the Canyon. This trip involves walking several miles on an easy trail and will end late morning. Please note: this area can be much colder, wetter, foggier and windier than Sacramento, so dressing in layers is recommended. Meet at the Mace Blvd Park and Ride at 7:30am. From Sacramento take I-80 west towards Davis to Mace Blvd. Exit #75; turn right (north) and then right again at the signal light to the Park and Ride lot a short distance beyond Ikeda's Market. Meet on the south side of the parking lot in the row nearest the big round water tank. To meet at Lynch Canyon by 8:30, from Sacramento take I-80 West. After Fairfield exits, take the Red Top Road exit #39A. Go south (left) under the underpass. In less than 0.1 mile, turn right on McGary Road (frontage road that parallels I-80). Follow McGary Road for 1.8 miles. Turn right on Lynch Road, go under the I-80 underpass, and proceed through the gate at the end of the cul-de-sac to the gravel parking lot. There is a \$5 parking fee.

Saturday, June 22, 7:30am

Indian Grinding Rocks State Park

Leader: Cliff Hawley, 916-300-2495

yellowhammerCA@gmail.com

Join Cliff for a day of birding at this State Park. The birdlife varies depending on the season, but many species are seen year round, including Turkey Vultures, Scrub and Steller's Jays, California Quail, Acorn and Hairy Woodpeckers, Northern Flickers, Hermit Thrushes, Wild Turkeys (non-native), and California Thrashers. In summer, the bright colors of the Western Tanager, Northern Oriole, Calliope and Anna's Hummingbirds can be seen in the woods around the meadow. A bird list is available at the museum. Meet at the Starbucks parking area in the College Greens Shopping Center in the 8300 block of Folsom Blvd (near Florin-Perkins, between Watt and Howe) at 7:30am. Trip goes till 2 or 3pm so bring water and lunch. Some light to moderate walking.

Sunday, June 23, 7:30am

William Pond Park

Leader: Larry Hickey, 415-305-0651

Larryhickey1@gmail.com

Meet Larry along the first parking area just past the entrance kiosk for this morning walk looking for summer and year round resident birds. Along the river mergansers, herons and egrets can be found in the backwaters. California Quail, Western Bluebirds and Lark Sparrows may be found in the park area and various raptors may be spotted. Trip will end before noon. From the intersection of Fair Oaks and Arden, follow Arden east, just under 1 mile, and it runs into the park. Meet 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. This is an excellent trip for beginners.

Tuesday, June 25, 7am

Granite Springs Road and Crystal Basin

Leaders: Tim Fitzer, 916-870-5207

spkua2@comcast.net

Ann Burris, 916-947-7573

burriss.nellieann@gmail.com

Join Tim and Ann for a full day of fun and birding. We will start by driving Granite Springs Road, then head into Crystal Basin for the remainder of the trip. We hope to find flycatchers, MacGillivray's Warblers, woodpeckers, Mountain Bluebirds and Calliope Hummingbird. If we are lucky, we will find Mountain Quail with young. The trip will last into the afternoon so bring liquids, lunch, snacks and warm clothes in case of chilly weather. Please bring FRS Radios if you have them. 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. We will leave promptly at 7am.

Saturday, June 29, 6:15am

Kennedy Park, Napa

Leaders: Daniel and Pam Thompson

916-799-1093, keiran247@hotmail.com

Coordinator: Scott Hoppe

916-835-8471

shoppe01@surrewest.net

Join Daniel and Pam for a mild one mile walk around Kennedy Park in Napa. The park is situated on the Napa River and provides a number of different habitats for bird viewing. With the river, the pond, riparian, and swamp habitats we're likely to see a good selection of birds. In the past we've even heard Black Rail out in the swamps,

but it's not a guarantee. The walk will last until about noon. So bring walking shoes/boots, snacks/lunch and lots to drink. There are two places you can meet. Scott Hoppe will be gathering the group at the West Sacramento Park and Ride at 6:15am. From Sacramento, take the West Capitol Ave, Exit #81, turn left at the light, and then left again into the Park and Ride lot. If you would prefer to meet the group in Fairfield, please contact Dan or Pam for the meeting place and time.

Sunday, June 30, 7:30am

Ancil Hoffman Park

**Leader: Mark Martucci, 916-833-6722
matuchbirdman@yahoo.com**

Mark will be looking for nesting and fledgling birds, and maybe something unexpected will turn up. This will be a 2 to 4 hour walk. Meet Mark in the picnic parking lot across from the golf course parking lot. From California Ave in Fair Oaks, take the Tarshes Drive entrance and follow it all the way to the last parking lot on your left. A SAC County Park Pass or \$5 entry fee is required for all vehicles.

Saturday, July 6, 6am

Loney Meadow

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

Come join Scott at this beautiful mountain meadow north of Grouse Ridge near Bowman Lake at about 6000' elevation. The area can have some excellent birding. Scott has seen 8 species of woodpecker there (including Pileated, Black-backed and Williamson's Sapsucker); also Townsend's Solitaire, Calliope Hummingbird, Willow Flycatcher, 7 species of warbler and previous trips have produced Bald Eagles. We will be hiking about 2-3 miles over mostly level terrain, however, there is one short, fairly steep incline, and a creek crossing on stepping stones. Meet Scott at 6am at the Horseshoe Bar Road Park and Ride in Loomis, Exit 110 off I-80. The meadow is about an hour and half's drive from there. Bring water and lunch or a snack.

Sunday, July 7, 7:30am

Mather Lake

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

Mather Lake is one of Wayne's favorite birding locations, and he usually turns up quite a list of bird species. Join him to look for a nice variety of resident and migrant birds. Possibilities include White-tailed Kites, California Quail, American Bittern, Green Heron and Common Yellowthroat.

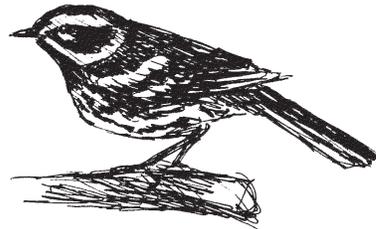
Meet in the parking lot of Mather Regional Park; from Highway 50 go south on Zinfandel, Exit #17, about 2-1/2 miles. After crossing Douglas Blvd, take the first left into the park area. A Sac County Park Pass or \$8 (holiday charge) entry fee is required for all vehicles.

Thursday, July 11, 7am

Sailor Bar, American River Parkway

**Leader: Darrell Mohr, 916-225-3999
mohrdd@gmail.com**

Join Darrell for a morning walk checking out the resident birds. Meet him at the boat launch parking area at the very end of the entrance road. This is a good trip for beginners. Sailor Bar is at the south end of Illinois Avenue, off Winding Way just west of Hazel. Meet at the last parking lot on your left, just before the boat launch parking area. A Sac County Park Pass or \$5 entry fee is required for all vehicles.



Townsend's Warbler
Kirsten Munson

SAS NEW MEMBERS

Welcome these new members:

- Anjanette Grossman
- Jackie Heath
- Jamie Kain
- Nancy Kapellas
- Sharon Kimball
- Peter Perrine

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS!

Gregory G Brott, Suzanne Covington, Jackie Heath, Diane Luke, Dan Murphy, Susan R Oie, Kay Poole, Susan Scott and Ed Harper, and David Steele made donations to the **General Fund**.

Terry Atkinson, Lisa Moraga, Marilyn and Donald Spiegel and Vicki Stoffers made donations to the **Conservation and Education Fund**.

Pohlin Gillis, Candy Holland, Jeffrey and Bunkie Mangum, and Sharon Wisecarver made donations to **Bobelaine**.

Thank you for your continued support of Sacramento Audubon and its work in the community.

Findings continued from page 2

seemed to surround us. Sooner than expected, yet highly anticipated, came the varied chirps, chatter and harsh whistles of a Yellow-breasted Chat, so nearby it seemed touchable but, as they are accustomed to doing, never came into view. Other avian musicians competing for our attention included Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, Western Kingbird, Warbling Vireo, Oak Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Bewick's Wren, Orange-crowned and Wilson's Warbler, Spotted Towhee, Chipping and Song Sparrow, Black-headed Grosbeak, Western Meadowlark, House Finch and Lesser Goldfinch. Such is spring! A Phainopepla was seen in treetops, but too far to hear it. Four species of swallow were seen, mostly Tree but also Northern Rough-winged, Violet-green and a Cliff. Although the passerines dominated the number on our list, raptors were well represented and highly prized. We saw Northern Harrier, Cooper's, Red-shouldered, Swainson's, Red-tailed and, a seemingly late Rough-legged Hawk, though it was an immature bird. Also

American Kestrel. And, the grand finale, a Golden Eagle. We tallied 61 bird species on our half-day trip. We were also treated to a River Otter, a Ringneck Snake and many beautiful varieties of spring wildflowers."

Putah Creek (4/16) – Leader Bill Bianco reported: "We started out with clear sunny skies and 13 people. A quarter way through the trip it turned cloudy with cold wind, and we dropped to 9 participants. We saw a total of 52 species. Raptors spotted were Swainson's Hawks (5), Red-tailed Hawk, and Northern Harrier. Lot of swallows were seen, Tree, Cliff, Barn and Northern Rough-winged Swallows. Some of the other species seen were Wood Ducks, American Kestrel, Western Kingbird, Yellow-billed Magpie, House Wren, Bewick's Wren, Bullock's Oriole, Western Bluebird, Blue-grey Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Orange-crowned Warbler, Common Yellow-throated Warbler. Finished a little before noon, with sun back out making a pleasant afternoon. Like to thank Rich Howard for his ebird list."

Cathie LaZier

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Sacramento Audubon Society



www.sacramentoaudubon.org

Farallon Islands Pelagic Trip continued from page 1

day to answer questions and provide information on the Islands and the wildlife. We will be going out on the Outer Limits. The trip will last approximately 8 hours, departing out of Sausalito promptly at 8am and returning about 3:30pm. The pre-trip presentation starts promptly at 7:30am. This trip is limited to the first 25 people that sign up to ensure everyone has plenty of room, so send your reservation and check early to reserve your spot. Note: reservations are not confirmed until payment is received. The trip cost is \$115 per person. Sign up deadline is July 1.



SEE THE LATEST SAS ACTION ON FACEBOOK

facebook.com/
SacramentoAudubon

OWL NESTING BOX

SAS recently received an email from Nancy Martens in Fair Oaks, about an owl nesting box that needs a new home.

"I have an owl nesting box I purchased from a woodworker in Missouri. It's new—I realized I did not have the capability to install it high in a large tree. I would like to donate it to someone who loves owls and could use it."

Please reply to our President, Bill Bianco at biancowm@yahoo.com who will arrange to pick it up from Nancy.

Farallon Islands Boat Trip Reservation Form

Sunday, July 14, 2019 Registration deadline: July 1, 2019

Tour departs from Harbor Drive, Sausalito. Trip price: \$115 per person

Name _____

Telephone _____ Cell Phone _____

Address (with zip) _____

Email (for confirmation) _____

Number of people _____ Total Payment \$ _____

Return this form and your check made out to **Sacramento Audubon** to:
Harriet Saeck, 5823 Callister Ave, Sacramento, CA 95819