



# *The Western Grebe*

Redbud Audubon Society, Inc.,

[www.redbudaudubon.org](http://www.redbudaudubon.org)

Volume 40—Issue No. 7—March 2015

## *Birding in Hawaii, (and Other Ecological Tidbits)*

This month the Redbud Audubon Society welcomes Hopland resident, Bob Keiffer who will present a program on “Birding in Hawaii.” Those who have seen Bob’s programs before know the photography is fabulous and the program is always interesting. The complete title for the program is

### **MARCH MEETING**

**Thursday, March 19**

\* Biologist from Mendocino County, Bob Keiffer, will present a program on “Birding in Hawaii”

\* Refreshments: 7 pm  
Announcements: 7:15 pm  
Program: 7:30 pm

\* Methodist Church social hall, 16255 Second St., Lower Lake

“Birding in Hawaii, (and other ecological tidbits)” so we are bound to pick up some fascinating information about Hawaii.

Bob was born and raised in Mendocino County and has had a long-time interest in natural resources and specifically a long-time interest in birds and mammals of the oak woodland habitats.

He followed his interest in wildlife by obtaining a Bachelor

of Science degree in Wildlife Management from Humboldt State University in 1979 and he is a certified Associate Wildlife Biologist with the Wildlife Society. Bob was the founder of the Peregrine Audubon Chapter in interior Mendocino County and has been the compiler of bird observations for Mendocino County, reporting to the North American Birds publication (Northern California region) for about 25 years.



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*A beautiful example of the Hawaiian Anianiau.  
(Photo by Bob Keiffer)*

Bob has been at the University of California’s

*(Continued on page 5)*

# *President's Message* by Roberta Lyons

## *Heron Days Returns!*

Thanks to the dedication of several of our Redbud Audubon Society members, and enough rain this winter to bring the level of Clear Lake high enough for boat navigation, the popular Heron Days event is once again being planned.

Heron Days will take place on May 2 and 3 with the first day of pontoon boat rides leaving from Lakeside County Park near Kelseyville and the second day leaving from Redbud Park in the City of Clearlake. Registration information will be up soon on Redbud's website.

The event will feature only pontoon boat rides once again, no craft or informational booths. On Saturday, the boats will venture along the shoreline of Clear Lake to the Corinthian Bay area where viewers are likely to see nesting Great Blue Herons along with a variety of other waterfowl and song-

birds, including Western and Clark's Grebes.

On Sunday, boats will leave from Redbud Park and head into Anderson Marsh and part of Cache Creek. There is also a Heron nesting site that can be seen on this trip as well.

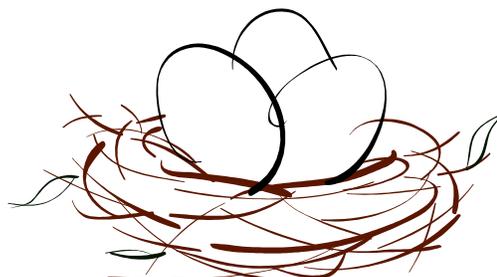
Redbud Audubon started Heron Days 20 years ago. It has gone from a small event at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park to a huge festival, held for many years at Clear Lake State Park, back to a simplified version that includes only boat rides to view the birds on Clear Lake.

All versions of the event have been great and we look forward to being able to offer the opportunity once again for residents and visitors alike to enjoy the bird life of Clear Lake.

Watch for more information on this event that will be available soon!

## *Welcome new and returning members*

Welcome new and returning members: Debra Sally, Clearlake; Joan E. Lane, Kelseyville; Diane Henderson, Kelseyville; Gina Martin, Kelseyville; and Leah Adams, Kelseyville.



## *Please provide us with your Email*

A number of our members have emailed us at [redbud.audubon@gmail.com](mailto:redbud.audubon@gmail.com) to opt to receive our newsletter, "*The Western Grebe*" by email as opposed to receiving it by mail.

Not only do you help save a tree, you help us save on expenses and energy in sending it to you by regular mail, and it comes to you in color versus the black and white mailed version. If you have been meaning to, but haven't yet done so, take the minute or two out of your time to do so.

Even if you still prefer to receive the mailed version of the "*Grebe*", we would like to have your email for our records. Once in a while we send out emails to our members about important events or bird sightings that may be of interest. You are also wel-

come to email us with any information that you think would be of interest to the membership. Questions requiring expert opinions are forwarded to the appropriate persons.

Also, we rely on our members for whom we have emails to help us with any volunteer efforts that we may have. Often it just means a couple of hours of your time. Whether you have areas of expertise or birding skills that you can share, or are willing to help us with general staffing of booths, setting up booths and transporting materials, we welcome your participation.

So please give us your email address by sending it to [redbud.audubon@gmail.com](mailto:redbud.audubon@gmail.com), and, if you wish, let us know in what areas you feel you can help.



## Observations

By Jerry White (JRW)

On November 12, Brad and Kathy Barnwell had 100 **Snow Geese** fly over the Kelsey Creek outlet. Two **Ross's Geese** were seen at Lake Pillsbury on November 15 by Joe Madden. Also on November 15, Brad Barnwell had an amazing 120 **Wood Ducks** at the Kelsey Creek outlet. Steve Stump found a **Eurasian Wigeon** on Detert Reservoir off of Butts Canyon Road on October 17.

Because of the very low lake level an extensive mud flat area formed off of Rodman Slough during the Fall of last year, providing local observers with an excellent location to search for birds. From that location Steve Stump had 55 **Tundra Swans** on November 12. On November 28 there were 800 **Canvasback** (JRW). An early arriving **Red-Breasted Merganser** was found at the same location on November 3 (JRW).

On January 23, 2015, Vicki Miller had 6 **Common Loons** in a single photo taken from Clear Lake Riviera. On November 12 there was a **Common Loon** on Detert Reservoir (JRW).

There were a high number of reports during the fall for **White-Faced Ibis**. The first one found was on September 9 by Floyd Hayes. The highest number seen on one day was a report of 4 from the Rodman Slough mud flats on November 4 by Steve Stump. The latest record was of 2 birds at the same location on November 28 (JRW).

A **Prairie Falcon** was found on Butts Canyon Road on January 14 by Dave and Marybeth Woodward.

A **Black-Necked Stilt** was seen at Manning Creek on September 28 during a boat survey trip led by Floyd Hayes.

A **Mew Gull** was at Lucerne Harbor on February 19 (JRW). This species has become difficult to find in Lake County last two or three years.

Vicki Miller photographed a **White-Winged Dove** at her residence in Clear Lake Riviera on September 22. This represents only the second record for Lake County. Dave Woodward has 2 **Evening Grosbeaks** in his yard in Lakeport on January 30.



## Save the Dates! Heron Days is back!!!

May 2 and 3, 2015

May 2, boats will leave from Lakeside County Park to view the Clear Lake shoreline to Land's End.

On May 3, boats will leave from Redbud Park in Clearlake to travel into Anderson Marsh and part of Cache Creek.

More information to come soon at [www.redbudaudubon.org](http://www.redbudaudubon.org)

## REDBUD AUDUBON BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Phone 707/ 263-8030  
Email: [redbud.audubon@gmail.com](mailto:redbud.audubon@gmail.com)



*Redbud Audubon leader and Clear Lake State Park volunteer, Brad Barnwell, gets a large group of interested folks ready for the bird walk at Clear Lake State Park in February. Redbud Audubon usually holds its field trips every third Saturday from September through April. (Photo by Kathy Barnwell)*

## ***February Field Trip to Clear Lake State Park brought a big crowd of interested people***

The combined Redbud Audubon, Clear Lake State Park bird walk started at 8:30 AM at Clear Lake State Park.

There were 32 people attending, all locals. Included in the group were a number of biology students from Clear Lake High School on a class project. The group was able to spot 46 species including a nesting Great Horned Owl as well as American White Pelicans, a Creeper and a Hermit Thrush plus many of the "regulars".

"It was a big group," commented co-leader Brad Barnwell, "but we managed to keep everyone together and everyone seemed to have a good time!"



*A group of over 30 people gathered at Clear Lake State Park in February to enjoy Redbud Audubon's monthly walk. The walk was paired with a walk led by Clear Lake State Park volunteer Brad Barnwell, who is also a Redbud Audubon member and volunteer. We all wear many hats in Lake County!!! (Photo by Kathy Barnwell)*



*The Nene, or Hawaiian Goose. Speaker Bob Keiffer of Hopland, a biologist and superintendent at the Hopland Research and Extension Center will present a fascinating program on Birding in Hawaii. (Photo by Bob Keiffer)*

## ***Birding in Hawaii, (and Other Ecological Tidbits)***

*(Continued from page 1)*

Ag and Natural Resources Division – Hopland Research and Extension Center for over 30 years, mostly as Principal Superintendent of Agriculture. There he has introduced and presented to many visitors, classes, and groups, the topic of oaks and oak woodland habitat, wildlife, range managements, and many other topics.

Please join us for this fascinating program. As always, our programs are free and open to the public.

## ***March Field Trip will be at Moore Family Winery***

The Redbud Audubon Society March field trip will be to the Moore Family Winery on Mt. Hannah at 11990 Bottle Rock Road, Kelseyville. This is a beautiful setting so be sure to bring a lunch to enjoy after the walk which will be led by Pat Harmon and Jeanette Knight.

The group will meet at the winery at 9 a.m.; bird the grounds of the winery and then probably walk to the Harrington Flat Road area. A wide variety of songbirds will probably be seen, including Robins, Western Bluebirds, White-breasted Nuthatches, Oak Titmouse, Tree Swallows and probably woodpeckers.

This should be a pleasant day at one of the county's loveliest winery facilities. As with all Redbud Audubon events, the walk is free and open to the public.

## ***2015 Field Trip Calendar***

Following is the field trip calendar for the Redbud Audubon Society for 2014/15. Prior to each field trip a description will appear in the Western Grebe and on our website with more information about the upcoming outing. You can also call Pat Harmon at (707) 263-4977 for information. Outings start at 9 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

### ***March 21***

Moore Family Winery to  
Harrington Flat Rd., Cobb

### ***April 18***

Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens,  
Fort Bragg

### ***May 2-3***

Heron Days



**Redbud Audubon**  
**PO Box 5780**  
**Clearlake, CA 95422**

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## **Redbud Audubon Society**

### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**National Audubon New Member Introductory Rate \$20 for 1 year**

- YES** Enroll me in both the **National Audubon Society** and local chapter **Redbud Audubon**, start my subscription to **Audubon Magazine**, and **The Western Grebe**, and send me my membership card.
- I would like to subscribe to **The Western Grebe** only, for \$20.
- From time to time, National Audubon may share its mailing list with other environmental organizations. If you do not wish to be contacted, please check this box.
- In addition to my membership, I would like to make a contribution to the local work of Redbud Audubon Society:  \$25  \$50  \$75  \$100  Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Save paper! Send my newsletter by email only.
- Notify me by email about upcoming events.
- Contact me when volunteers are needed.

**My Email Address is:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make check payable to Redbud Audubon Society.*

**Mail your application and check to POB 5780, Clearlake, CA 95422**

**Thank you for supporting Redbud Audubon Society**

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