



The Western Grebe

Redbud Audubon Society, Inc.,

www.redbudaudubon.org

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Exploring the Colombian Southwest Andes and intermountain valleys



Gordon Beebe

Last September everyone in Lake County was shocked and stricken by the now notorious Valley Fire. Since our Redbud Audubon Society program was scheduled for barely a week after that event, we cancelled the program. Fortunately, our scheduled speaker, Gordon Beebe, agreed to re-schedule and we are very pleased to welcome him this month to present:

APRIL MEETING

Thursday, April 21

- * Speaker: Gordon Beebe discusses Colombian Southwest Andes
- * Refreshments: 7 pm
Announcements: 7:15 pm
Program: 7:30 pm
- * Methodist Church Social Hall,
16255, Second St. Lower Lake

“Exploring the Colombian southwest Andes and intermountain valleys.” Gordon Beebe is President of the Madrone Audubon Society, our neighbor in Sonoma County, and we look forward to his program very much.

Torrent Ducks, Cock-of-the-Rock and more are shown in

photos, video, and audio recordings, all seamlessly integrated into the presentation. Experience the visual beauty and unique songs and calls of the birds of the varied habitats of southwest Colombia, from the valleys, cloud forest, freshwater lagoon and rivers, to the páramo, high in the Andes.

Watch the antics of a Black-billed Mountain Toucan as it feeds in the cloud forest, see five species of Antpittas up close at Río Blanco Preserve,

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The Blue-capped Tanager of the Southwest Colombian Andes.

Please note meeting place change

In January, Redbud Audubon started meeting at the Methodist Church Social Hall, 16255 Second St. in Lower Lake as we did last year. The hall is across the parking lot from the Methodist Church. If you are coming through Lower Lake, turn left on Lake Street and then right on Second St. The church is on the right. We feel that moving our meetings to the south end of the county for half of our year is a way to accommodate all of our Redbud Audubon members county wide.

President's Message

by Roberta Lyons

This month we are welcoming Gordon Beebe who will present his program on birding in south-western Colombia. Some of you may remember that Gordon was originally scheduled to speak last September but his program was cancelled due to the Valley Fire.

We are pleased to welcome him for our April program.

We are publishing some photos by Darlene Hecomovich in this newsletter of some of the continuing re-growth on Cobb Mt. that is beginning to become apparent this Spring. The aftermath of the fire continues to affect everyone in Lake County with numerous issues arising that were probably unforeseen by many, such as the problems with the water delivery systems that were impacted by the inferno and the fact that new state codes require improved and updated sewer systems in places like Anderson Springs.

The County is doing the best that it can, but money, as was discovered by the victims of other major disasters, is always the issue. FEMA will only provide so much emergency aide. People continue to work together and try to keep their heads up. Over half of the residents who lost their homes say they intend to rebuild. So as time goes by, and recovery continues, we think of our neighbors and friends and hope they can find hope and solace in the fact that we live in a very caring community and still, a very beautiful place.



The shrubs and bracken are growing back in many places on Cobb Mt. that were scorched by the Valley Fire. These photos were taken by Cobb Mt. resident and Redbud Audubon member Darlene Hecomovich on the Hoberg Loop Trail. Below is a coffee berry plant.



Would you like to receive the Western Grebe by email?

If you have looked at our newsletter, The Western Grebe, on our website where it is published in color, you probably have noticed how great it looks! If you send us your email, we can add you to our email list to send you the Grebe newsletter every month so you can enjoy the beautiful photos and graphics in color. Also, receiving the Grebe by email provides a substantial savings to the Redbud Audubon Society as we do not have to pay the mailing cost.

Please let us know if you would prefer to receive your grebe electronically and we will take you off of our "hard," mailing list and add you to our email list to receive the Grebe. If we already have your email, but have not heard from you that you would like to receive the Grebe by email instead of through the mail, please let us know!!! You can accomplish this by emailing us at redbud.audubon@gmail.com. Thank you!

Annual Audubon picnic

Redbud Audubon Society members and guests are welcome to join us on Thursday, May 19 for our annual end-of-the-year picnic and installation of officers.

The event will be held at Lakeside County Park on Park Dr. off of Soda Bay Road. The picnic is a potluck, but Audubon supplies hotdogs, buns and condiments. You are welcome to bring an alternate meat or meat-substitute to grill if you prefer. Sodas and water will also be provided. The picnic starts at 5:30 p.m.

Redbud Audubon Chapter Only Membership Available

By Vivian McFarling

If you are a member of National Audubon Society, you are automatically a member of your local chapter. Although National Audubon provides minimal financial support to the local chapters, it is important to continue your renewals with them to fund the many ways that National contributes to the preservation of our birdlife.

We could use your support

If you wish to support our local Redbud Audubon chapter, one way is to donate on a regular basis. Online donations are available by visiting our website at www.redbudaudubon.org and clicking on "DONATE NOW".

Another option is to become a Redbud Audubon Chapter-Only member. In the past, we did not have the staff to manage the renewal process. We have now enrolled the services of Member Planet which has the ability to automate the membership renewal system. You can enroll online through our www.redbudaudubon.org website and click on "JOIN US". By law Member Planet must ask for your date of birth to prove that you are an adult. Other than that, all that is required is your name, email address and payment information. Any other information you provide is optional.

This system is new to us, but should work pretty seamlessly. If you do have any problems or concerns, please email us at redbud.audubon@gmail.com. Your feedback is important to us.

Welcome new and returning members

Welcome new and returning members: Peggy Lewy, Clearlake; Holly Oswald, Hidden Valley Lake; Debby Carter, Hidden Valley Lake; and David and Jane Ahrens of Upper Lake.

REDBUD AUDUBON BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Over 500 people attended the BSM dedication ceremony on March 19. Photo by Woody Elliott.



Sally Jewel, Secretary of the Interior spoke at the dedication ceremony to commemorate the new Berryessa Snow Mountain (BSM) National Monument. Photo by Woody Elliott.

Redbud Audubon represented At BSM dedication ceremony

The Redbud Audubon Society was represented at the recent dedication ceremony for the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument on March 19. Over 500 people attended this impressive event and Redbud Audubon was there to educate people about our mission and our on-going Grebe Conservation program, headed by Marilyn Waits.

The new Berryessa Snow Mountain (BSM) National Monument was designated in July of 2015 by President Barack Obama and it is partially in Lake County. The area contains a high concentration of biodiversity and provides habitat for many endangered and threatened plants and wildlife.

Attending the event were numerous elected officials, conservation leaders, and many volunteers. It was held at Cowboy Camp, a BLM property located near the Highway 16 and Highway 20 intersection.



As part of the event, many non-profit organizations, including the Redbud Audubon Society attended. Pictured are Roberta Lyons, I, and Marilyn Waits sitting at the Audubon booth that was visited by Ann Carlson, Supervisor of the Mendocino National Forest based in Willows, and U.S. Representative John Garamendi. Photo by Woody Elliott.

April Field Trip

Our April field trip to the Laguna de Santa Rosa will be held on April 23. The Laguna de Santa Rosa is a Sonoma County Park located off of Hwy. 12 about 5 and one-half miles after turning westbound onto 12 from Highway 101. It is before you get to the City of Sebastopol.

Carpooling will be available and participants are asked to meet in Lower Lake at the "usual spot," which is on the east end of town. We park here to not interfere with businesses and commerce in Lower Lake. Meet at 8 a.m. If you would like more information, call Pat Harmon at (707) 263-4977. There will be songbirds, raptors, and other birds. It is a nice flat walk. Those attending can either eat at a restaurant in Sebastopol or bring a lunch to enjoy at the Sebastopol City Park after the field trip.

Highland Springs was an enjoyable day of birding

The field trip held in March at Highland Springs Reservoir was an enjoyable day for 18 people, reports Redbud's field trip chairman Pat Harmon. They logged about 36 species and enjoyed the morning and early afternoon at one of Lake County's many beautiful areas for birding.

Species	#			
Canada Goose	2	Black Phoebe	1	
Wood Duck	1	Western Scrub-Jay	2	
Mallard	8	American Crow	2	
Ruddy Duck	4	Tree Swallow	23	
California Quail	12	Violet-green Swallow	6	
Pied-billed Grebe	2	Oak Titmouse	7	
Double-crested Cormorant	2	White-breasted Nuthatch	3	
Turkey Vulture	2	Western Bluebird	3	
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	American Robin	13	
American Coot	2	European Starling	5	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	4	Yellow-rumped Warbler	7	
Mourning Dove	1	Dark-eyed Junco	5	
Anna's Hummingbird	2	Golden-crowned Sparrow	4	
Acorn Woodpecker	13	Red-winged Blackbird	12	
Nuttall's Woodpecker	6	Brewer's Blackbird	1	
Northern Flicker	4	House Finch	2	
		Lesser Goldfinch	4	

Exploring Columbian Southwest Andes

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hear the unusual song of the Jet Antbird at Sonso Lagoon, and delight in the Buffy Helmetcrest, a hummingbird of the Páramo.

Gordon Beebe is a project coordinator for the Sonoma County Breeding Bird Atlas, a Saturday bird walk leader, and the website editor for Madrone Audubon. He lives with his wife Judy in Santa Rosa, CA.

Field Trip Calendar

Following is the field trip calendar for the Redbud Audubon Society for 2015/16. 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 info. Outings start at 9 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

April 23-Laguna de Santa Rosa. Hwy. 12

April 30 – Heron Days,
Lakeside Park, Lakeport

May 7-Heron Days,
Redbud Park, Clearlake

21st Annual
Lake County

Heron Days

Audubon-guided
Birding Boat Tours
on Clear Lake

Presented by
Redbud Audubon
Society, Inc.



April 30
LAKESIDE PARK
LAKEPORT
8:00 AM – 1:00 PM, BOTH DAYS

May 7
REDBUD PARK
CITY OF CLEARLAKE
8:00 AM – 1:00 PM, BOTH DAYS

INFORMATION AND
PONTON BOAT TOUR
RESERVATIONS:
WWW.REDBUDAUDUBON.ORG
OR (707)987-3742



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National Audubon/Redbud Audubon

Joint Membership Application

New Member Introductory Rate — \$20 for the first 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*** chapter newsletter.
- ☐ 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.

- ☐ Save printing and mailing costs by sending my newsletter to my email address.
- ☐ I want to receive the newsletter by regular mail, but please email notifications to me.

My Email Address is:

- ☐ In addition to my membership, I would like to make a contribution to the local work of Redbud Audubon Society:
____ \$10 ____ \$20 ____ \$50 ____ \$100 ____ Other

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

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