



The Western Grebe

Redbud Audubon Society, Inc.,

www.redbudaudubon.org

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Birds of the American West to be presented by Dr. Norman Kikuchi

Redbud Audubon Society is welcoming everyone to its first program of the season on Thursday, Sept. 19, when outstanding speaker, Dr. Norman Kikuchi returns. Everyone is invited to gather at 7 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church Social Hall, 5430 Third St. Kelseyville, to enjoy refreshments. Announcements and the program will start between 7:15 and 7:30.

Last September Dr. Kikuchi spoke on Birds of Alaska. This new program features a glimpse into the lives of iconic birds of the Western United States. Dr. Kikuchi selected photographs he has taken at birding hotspots in New Mexico, Oregon and California.

Starting in world famous Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge in New Mexico, the unforgettable spectacle of immense flocks of Snow Geese and Sandhill Cranes will be witnessed.

Northwards to lesser known Cabin Lake, Oregon, the Cascade boreal forest interfaces with the Great Basin sagebrush. The dearth of free-standing water for

many surrounding miles makes this the premier place to see and photograph Red Crossbills. Southwards to Lassen County, California, the

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The Western Tanager enjoys a diet of insects, and fruits and berries, including hawthorne, mulberry, elderberries, and grapes.



Roadrunners can outrun Elmer Fudd, but not coyotes, that can run over 50% faster.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Thursday, Sept. 19

- **Topic:** Birds of the American West
- **Speaker:** Dr. Norman Kikuchi
- **Refreshments:** 7 pm
- **Announcements:** 7:15 pm
- **Program:** 7:30 pm
- **Location:** Presbyterian Church Social Hall, 5430 Third St., Kelseyville.

President's Message by Roberta Lyons

Redbud Audubon busy over the summer



In reading over last May's newsletter, I see that I reported that Redbud Audubon was "going dark," (as we usually do) for the summer. Which we did, as far as programs and field trips are concerned, but our activities did not "go dark."

In particular, I'm excited to point out all the hard work by our intrepid former president and current board member, Marilyn Waits, who arranged the creation and installation of the two Osprey interpretive panels that now accompany the new Osprey nesting pole that was installed last February at Lakeside County Park. Congratulations Marilyn for a job well done and many thanks to Calpine Corporation, The County of Lake, The County Fish and Wildlife Advisory Committee, Faith Rigolosi, Terry Knight and many others who supported this effort. Read about the installation and dedication ceremony for the panels and see what they look like in this issue of *The Western Grebe*.

Redbud Audubon board members were also busy planning the upcoming year. We have a wonderful slate of eight programs, including our annual bird identification program for the Christmas bird count, planned. We held our yearly planning meeting in August and determined to once again present the ever popular Heron Days event at the end of April. As most of you know, we meet from September through December at the Kelseyville Presbyterian Church Social Hall and then, starting in January through April we meet in Lower Lake at the Methodist Church Social Hall. Our monthly meetings start with refreshments at 7 p.m. and this year we will be starting our programs anywhere from 7:15 to 7:30 so arriving at 7 is a good idea.

We are looking forward to Dr. Norman Kikuchi's upcoming program on Sept. 19 on the Birds of the American West. Please join us for what will be the chance to see some fascinating and unusual birds.

Please provide us with your email

A number of our members have emailed us at 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 welcome

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, and, if you wish, let us know in what areas you feel you can help.

Registration opens for Central Valley Birding Symposium

The Central Valley Bird Club will be hosting the 23rd annual Central Valley Birding Symposium (CVBS) Nov. 21-24, 2019, at the Stockton Hilton Hotel in Stockton. The Great Central Valley, in the heart of California and the Pacific Flyway, is uniquely situated for excellent birding

The CVBS kicks off with a delicious hors d'oeuvres buffet and no host bar on Thursday night, followed by a favorite keynote speaker, outstanding photographer, birder, and presenter, Ed Harper, with his program, *"Simply in Awe of Birds"*.

Friday night's keynote program *"The Language of Birds"* will be presented by Nathan Pieplow, author of the Peterson Field Guide to Bird Sounds.

Saturday night's keynote program, *"The Genius of Birds"* will be presented by acclaimed science and nature writer, Jennifer Ackerman. Learn how birds make and use their own sophisticated tools, teach one another new skills, exercise astonishing feats of memory, create works of art, navigate, communicate in ways that resemble language, and even pass along cultural traditions.

Informative and entertaining workshops include: *"Subspecies for Birders"* with Joe Morlan, *"I Know It When I See It"* by Jon Dunn, and an update on Central Valley bird conservation and research programs

Field trips, offered Friday, Saturday and Sunday, always turn up exciting birds. Add in the entertaining and educational Bird ID Panel, the wonderful selection of optics, art and gifts at the Birder's Market plus the camaraderie of hundreds of like-minded folks, and you know you'll have a good time!

To look over the schedule of events, go to:
<http://www.cvbirds.org/events/symposium/>

Registration began Sept. 6, 2019.

REDBUD AUDUBON BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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President: Roberta Lyons

Vice President: Open

Treasurer: Nicola Selph

Secretary: Katherine Lindsley

Past-President: Marilyn Waits

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

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Programs - Marilyn Waits

Publicity - Roberta Lyons

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To contact a board member:

Phone 707/ 263-8030

Email: redbud.audubon@gmail.com



The August 24 dedication ceremony at Lakeside County Park was a lot of fun. Pictured from left, in back, are Brian Powers, Superintendent of Lake County Parks; Dan Cole, Construction Manager for CALPINE, Don Walsh, Area Supervisor for County Parks, Faith Rigolosi who first raised the issue of the need for a new Osprey nesting site; Tina Scott, County Supervisor, and Terry Knight, wildlife and fishing columnist for the Record-Bee who has also been monitoring the Osprey nest at Lakeside County Park for Marilyn Waits, Redbud Audubon, far left, in front, who organized the installation of the pole and creation of the interpretive panels.

Redbud Audubon Society dedicates new Osprey signs at Lakeside County Park on Saturday, Aug. 24

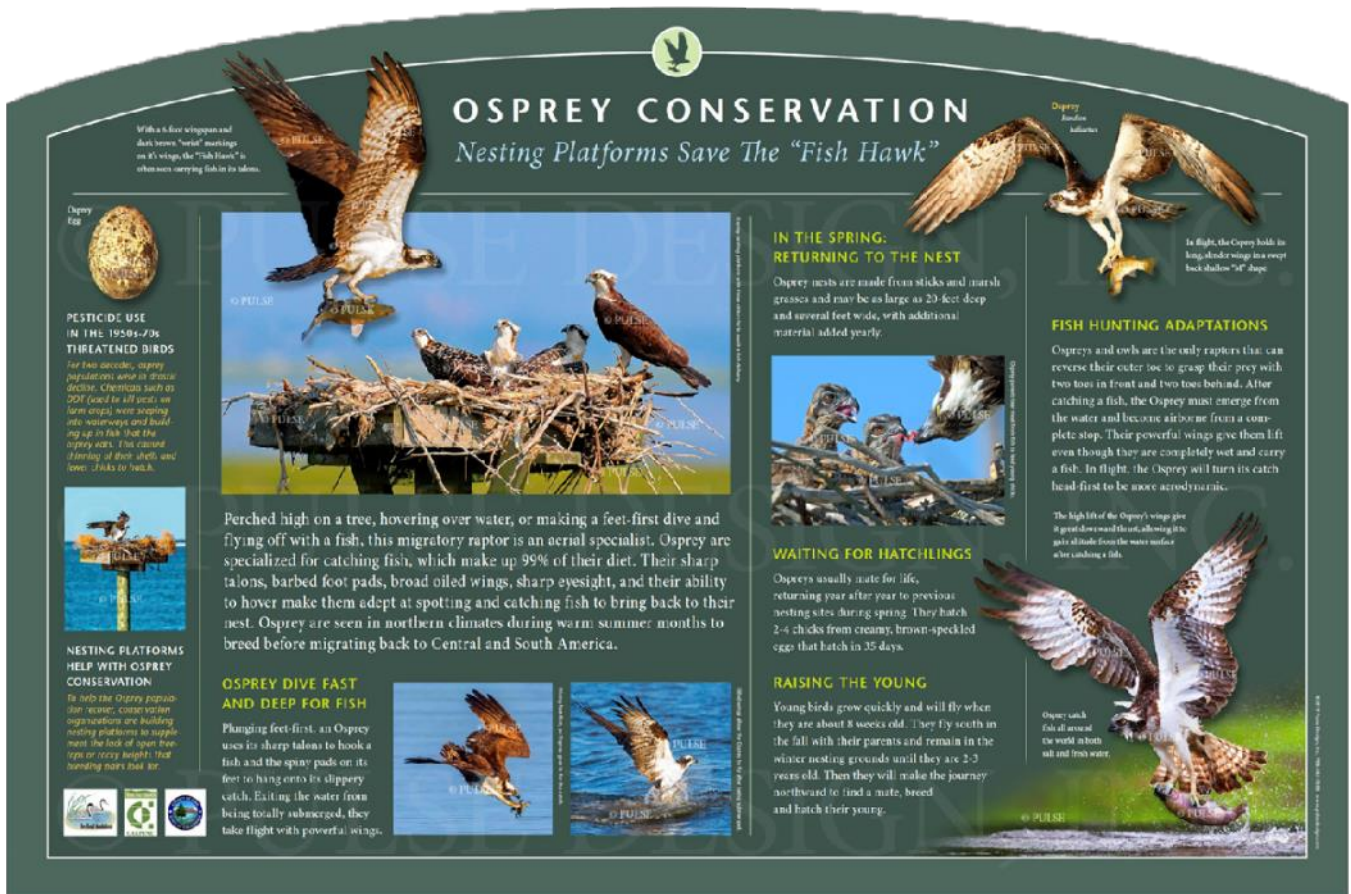
The public and families enjoyed a free dedication ceremony for the two new Osprey educational signs installed at Lakeside County Park in Kelseyville on Saturday morning, Aug. 24. The signs are near the new Osprey nest pole erected last February by the Redbud Audubon Society.

The pole replaced a diseased tree where an Osprey pair had nested for many years. Redbud Audubon purchased and installed the pole with a \$10,000 grant from Calpine Corporation to Redbud's ongoing Osprey Fund.

Because the pole is in an open area in the center of the park, visible from all directions, the Board of Su-

pervisors Fish & Wildlife Advisory Committee approved \$5,000 for Redbud Audubon to commission a colorful Ospreys interpretive panel explaining this interesting species. Often called the "Fish Hawk," Osprey dive for fish in Clear Lake and bring them to the nest to feed the family during the months of incubating and parenting several chicks.

Many Hispanic families regularly visit this popular park, so the Advisory Committee asked Redbud Audubon to produce two panels, one in English and one in Spanish. The finished panels were presented to the Board of Supervisors at its Aug. 20 meeting and then installed at the park.



"PULSE DESIGN NATURE SERIES" Interpretive Trail Sign #081-2430-01A-17819, Size 24"x36", ©2019 Pulse Design, Inc. To Order: Call 708-585-1308 or Visit: www.pulsedesign.com
7-12-19 Redbud Audubon, California, SPANISH TRANSLATION, Proof #3

(Above) The new Osprey signs, one in English and one in Spanish, are at the Lakeside County Park in Kelseyville. (Left) Patrick Barton, Gavin Scott and Garrett Scott are checking out the new Osprey interpretive panel at Lakeside County Park during the dedication ceremony that was held on Aug. 24.



Birds of the American West to be presented by Dr. Norman Kikuchi

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Greater Sage Grouse perform their age-old ritual dances on a traditional lek.

Then it is on to the breeding birds of the High Sierras at Yuba Pass and adjacent Sierra Valley lowlands.

Next, on the largest freshwater lake in California at Clear Lake in Lake County, both Western and Clark's grebes exhibit their unique breeding behaviors.

On the coast south of the Bay Area, view the amazing hummingbirds at the UC Santa Cruz arboretum.

The penultimate stop is the winter roost of Black Skimmers at East Beach Santa Barbara.

Finally on the cliffs of La Jolla the California race of Brown Pelicans will be seen.

Norman Kikuchi's childhood interest in birds began while stalking Ring-necked Pheasants in the foothills of Mt. Diablo, but his real bird epiphany occurred during his college days when he witnessed the impalement of a Western Fence Lizard by a Loggerhead Shrike on a Joshua tree spine.

Norman graduated from the University of California, Davis with a degree in Zoology and a minor in Herpetology. He completed medical school and family practice residency at the University of California, Irvine. A two-year stint working in emergency room medicine in Saudi Arabia near the Red Sea led to two decades of traveling the world's oceans in pursuit of underwater images. Highlights from this period include being knocked around in cages by Great White Sharks in South Africa and



Western Grebes are known for being able to run across the water, but just as interesting is catching sight of one running on land. One famous bird identification book even noted, incorrectly, that the birds could not walk due to their anatomy.

being bubble-netted by a mother Humpback Whale defending her calf in the waters off the Dominican Republic.

In 1997, Norman acquired the super telephoto Canon lenses. He switched to his present obsession, avian photography, and his ultimate goal, photographing all the breeding birds in the U.S. and Canada.

He practices Urgent Care and Occupational Medicine in Redding, is a Santa Cruz Bird Club lifetime member, and a field trip leader for Santa Clara Valley Audubon.

Membership explained

Just a quick reminder that you have a choice between two types of membership. Most of you are members of National Audubon and are assigned by National to our Redbud Audubon chapter.

We offer chapter-only membership whereby you must enroll via the internet. You can visit our website at www.redbudaudubon.org and click on

membership for further details.

Also, as a reminder, if you are receiving this newsletter by regular mail and are open to receiving it by email, you can save the chapter significant printing and mailing costs by emailing us at redbud.audubon@gmail.org and letting us know. If you prefer to receive the newsletter by mail, please consider donating \$10 - \$15 to Redbud Audubon.

2018-19 Chapter Financial Report

Redbud Audubon Society, Inc.

July 1, 2018 to June 30 2019

Revenues	Audubon Membership Revenue	\$1,702
	Contributions	674
	Grebe Conservation Grant	8,431
	Osprey Pole Grant	11,300
	Educational Programs & Events (Heron Days)	8,196
	Sales (books, booth sales)	1,457
	Interest	<u>75</u>
	Total income	\$31,835
	Cost of Goods Sold	<u>\$983</u>
	Total Revenue	\$30,852
Expenditures	Administration	\$3,814
	Educational Programs & Events	3,880
	Grebe Conservation Grant	6,851
	Osprey Pole Grant	7,992
	Conservation Misc	300
	Newsletter Printing/Mailing	2,793
	Marketing Outreach	645
	Storage rental	<u>1,324</u>
	Total Expenditures	\$27,599
	Net Income in Operating Funds	\$3,253
	Beginning Retained Earnings 6/30/18	\$44,545
	Net Income 2018-2019	3,253
	Ending Retained Earnings 6/30/19	\$47,798
Assets	Cash & Equivalents (Checking, Savings, etc)	\$46,535
	Inventory Held for Sale	1,485
	Total Assets	\$48,020
Liabilities	Accounts Payable	222
	Total Liabilities	\$222
Funds	Restricted (Grebe Conservation Fund)	1,550
	Reserved (Osprey Fund)	5,538
	Unreserved (Not Committed)	39,447
	Total Fund Balances	\$46,535



Walkers at Rodman enjoy viewing waterfowl on one of the branches of Rodman Slough.



Rodman Preserve offers beautiful scenic vistas.



An interesting find on a walk at the Rodman Preserve: bear scat.

September field trip planned for Rodman Preserve on Sept. 21

Redbud Audubon's first field trip of the season will be held at the Lake County Land Trust's Rodman Preserve, 6350 Westlake Rd., Upper Lake. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Preserve's Nature Center Building on Westlake Road. Take the Nice-Lucerne Cut-off from Highway 29 and then turn left onto Westlake.

Don't confuse County Rodman Slough Park, which is near the bridge going over the slough with the Land Trust's Rodman Preserve. This happens often and is easy to do; just remember the Land Trust property is on Westlake, a left turn off of the Nice-Lucerne Cut-off before you get to the bridge. Of course if you are coming from the Northshore, using the Nice-Lucerne Cut-off, go over the bridge and then turn right on Westlake just before the Highway 29 on-ramp.

The walk at Rodman preserve is about an hour and a half to two hours. It is an easy walk with only two mild elevations. Expect to see songbirds, raptors, Osprey and probably herons and egrets. Bring a lunch if you want to sit on the back porch and visit with fellow birders as you enjoy the views and ambience of the Rodman Preserve.

The Rodman Preserve is owned and operated by the Lake County Land Trust a local charitable 501 (c) (3) that preserves habitat and open space in Lake County. The Rodman Preserve is a total of 234 acres made up of oak savannah, open meadows and wetlands. The Land Trust's website is www.lakecountylandtrust.org.

Legislative support needed!

Some of our members who are also members of National Audubon may receive email from National on legislative issues that affect our birds. National Audubon (as well as California Audubon) makes it easy to click on a link to locate your representative in Congress and their email. Your voice is important! Our voices together can make a difference. Redbud Audubon forwards pertinent legislative notices via email to you. We hope you will not mind if you receive them both from National Audubon and us. The protection of our bird life is extremely important.

Field Trip Calendar

Following is the field trip calendar for the Redbud Audubon Society for 2019 – 2020. Prior to each field trip a description will appear in our newsletter, the *Western Grebe* and on our website with more information about the upcoming outing. You can also call our field trip chair, Pat Harmon at (707) 263-4977 for information. Outings start at 9 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

September 21

Lake County Land Trust's Rodman Preserve
6350 Westlake Rd. Upper Lake, CA

October 19

Anderson Marsh State Historic Park
Highway 53, Lower Lake

November 23

Middle Creek Nature Trail near Upper Lake
(Near the Reclamation area)
Meet at Judy's Junction in Upper Lake

December 14

Christmas Bird Count

January 18

National Wildlife Refuges at Colusa
and Sacramento – carpool from Lower Lake

February 22

Clear Lake State Park – Soda Bay Road,
Kelseyville

March 21

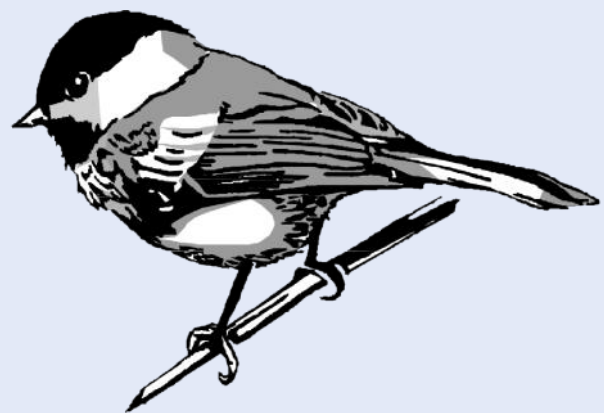
Highlands Springs Reservoir – Lakeport

April

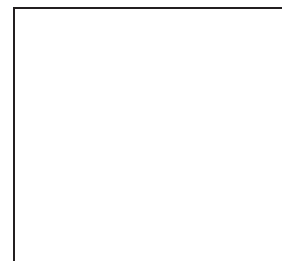
Heron Days

May 23

Eel River, Potter Valley



Redbud Audubon
PO Box 5780
Clearlake, CA 95422



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.
- ☐ Check this box only if you wish to receive **The Western Grebe** newsletter by regular mail. Otherwise, it will be emailed to you.
- ☐ 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.

You have the option of just joining the Redbud Chapter by enrolling online at www.redbudaudubon.org.
Newsletter by email \$25/year; by regular mail \$35/year.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

- ☐ I would also like to make a contribution to the local work of Redbud Audubon. My check is enclosed for
_____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$75 _____ \$100 Other: _____
**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
Connecting People with Nature since 1974