



The Western Grebe

Redbud Audubon Society, Inc.,

www.redbudaudubon.org

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Wildlife and wildfire will be April presentation for Redbud Audubon

On Thursday, April 15, at 7 p.m. the Redbud Audubon Society is pleased to host Lynn Schofield, a biologist for the Institute for Bird Populations who will present a Zoom program on Wildlife and Wildfire: Animal Adaptations for a Dynamic Ecosystem.

Wildfires are an important part of many ecosystems around the world including those of California. Fires provide an opportunity for new growth, to return nutrients to the soil, and to create a wholly unique type of habitat.

California's species have adapted to survive and thrive in ecosystems defined by fire, and they have developed a wide variety of strategies for making the best of the post-fire habitat. However, these systems exist in a delicate balance. Recently, forest fires have been increasing in size, intensity, and frequency due to human

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Biologist Lynn Schofield will discuss fire adaptive species, such as the Great Grey Owl.

REDBUD AUDUBON

APRIL CHAPTER MEETING

Thursday, April 15, 7 PM

**Topic: Wildlife and Wildfire: Animal Adaptions
for a Dynamic Ecosystem**

**Presenter: Lynn Schofield, Biologist,
Institute for Bird Populations**

To register for this Zoom meeting, click link:

[Redbud Audubon Program Registration](#)

Or scan the following QR code:



President's Message

by Roberta Lyons

Women play important role in environmental causes in Lake County



Roberta Lyons

Women's History Month was celebrated last month, and it started me thinking about the many contributions women have made to the environmental movement in our country, our region, and Lake County.

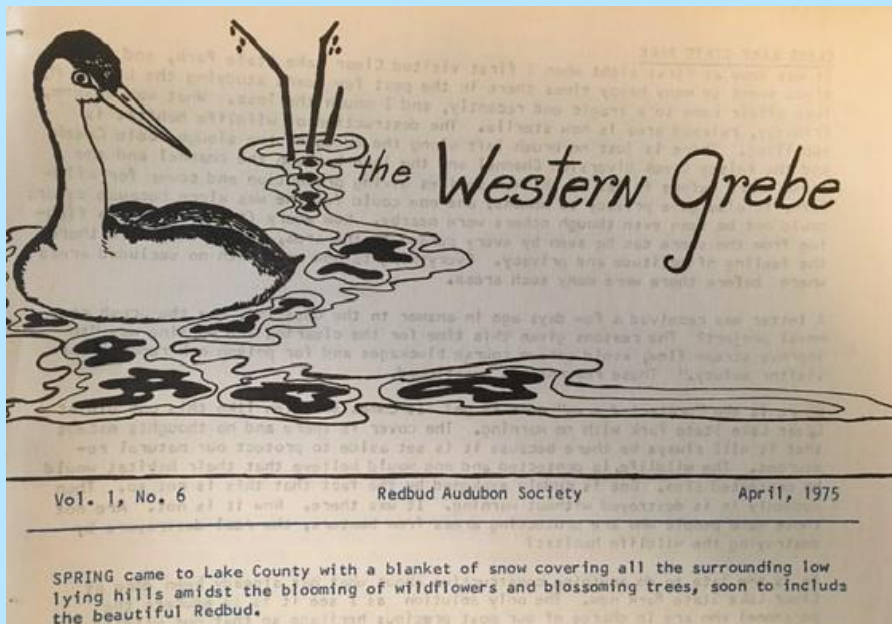
In reviewing women in the environmental movement, many of us would first think of Rachel Carson, author of the famous book *Silent Spring* and one of the premier female scientists and outspoken environmentalists ever. Carson, who died in 1964, was an ecologist and writer who grew up in Pennsylvania. She studied marine biology at Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratory and received her MA in zoology

from Johns Hopkins University. She worked for many years for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and wrote wonderful books about the sea and marine life.

Carson has an interesting link to Lake County. She used the disastrous impact of the pesticide DDD (a relative of DDT) on the Western Grebes in Clear Lake as an example in *Silent Spring*, to show how destructive the pesticide could be. Beginning in 1949 and continuing in the 1950's, Clear Lake was treated with DDD to rid the lake of the pesky Clear Lake gnat.

Close to home are women like Sylvia McLaughlin who spearheaded the founding of the "Save the Bay," organization. Her group of committed women saved San Francisco Bay. In the 1960's plans were well underway to continue filling San Francisco Bay to cre-

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The original logo for Redbud Audubon Society's Western Grebe newsletter. The artist was Winona Woods, an early Redbud Audubon member. The logo started appearing in the first "Volume" of Western Grebe newsletters. We are now on Volume 46.

President's Message

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ate more subdivisions and shopping centers. If it were not for Save the Bay, this critically important body of water would be unrecognizable today.

Even closer to home is the founder of our local Redbud Audubon Society. In 1974 Evelyn Thompson of Kelseyville spearheaded the founding of the Redbud Audubon Society, making it the oldest established conservation organization in Lake County. The women on her founding board included Lorraine Hemstreet, Dorothy Howard and Margaret Connor, all of Lakeport.

Currently, women continue to play an important role in all of the environmental groups in Lake County. That includes our Redbud Audubon Society Board of Directors, all whose current officers are women.

In summary, I want to take this opportunity to recognize what women have done in the past for nature and the environment and what they will continue to do in the future to protect life on our planet.

Redbud Audubon Board of Directors election

It's that time of year again when Redbud Audubon elects the Board of Directors. Our Nomination Committee chair, Darlene Hecomovich, has presented a slate of officers which is the same as the current year.

Proposed slate of officers is:

President – Roberta Lyons

Vice-President – Donna Mackiewicz

Treasurer – Nichola Selph

Secretary – Katherine Lindsley

If you would like to be a candidate for any of these positions or if you would like to propose a nomination please contact Darlene Hecomovich at (707) 295-7644 or email her at dheco@me.com.

The election will be held via an email ballot that will be sent to members in late April, with results to be announced in the May edition of the Western Grebe.



REDBUD AUDUBON BOARD OF DIRECTORS



OFFICERS

President: Roberta Lyons

Vice President: Donna Mackiewicz

Treasurer: Nicola Selph

Secretary: Katherine Lindsley

Past-President: Marilyn Waits

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Bird Observations - Jerry White

Christmas Bird Count - Brad and Kathy Barnwell

Conservation - Roberta Lyons
and Donna Mackiewicz

Education - Lisa Prather

Field Trips - Pat Harmon

Historian - Pat Harmon

Hospitality - Pat Harmon

Member-at-Large- Tina Wasson

Membership Manager - Susanne Scholz

Newsletter Editor - Roberta Lyons

Newsletter Email Distribution - Lisa Prather

Newsletter Production - Jim Scholz

Programs - Marilyn Waits

Publicity - Roberta Lyons

Webmaster - Bonnie Thompson

Social Media - Donna Mackiewicz

To contact a board member:

Phone 707/ 263-8030

Email: redbud.audubon@gmail.com



Western Bluebirds

Supervisors proclaim April as “Bird Appreciation Month”

On April 6, the Lake County Board of Supervisors proclaimed the month of April as “Bird Appreciation Month,” in Lake County. District Five Supervisor, Jessica Pyska, brought the request to the board on behalf of The Redbud Audubon Society, in order to honor the importance of the bird life in Lake County and on Clear Lake and to focus on efforts that every person in the County can do to make life better for birds.

Following is the wording of the proclamation designating the month of April 2021 as Bird Appreciation Month in Lake County:

WHEREAS, Birds are present everywhere in our environment, including our cities and towns, wetlands, the Clear Lake shoreline, oak woodlands, and Chaparral and

WHEREAS, The Local Redbud Audubon Society has worked for over 40 years to raise the awareness of the importance of the local bird population here, including presenting the annual Heron Days bird tour event almost every year for the last 20 years and

WHEREAS, April 22, is officially designated as Earth Day and birds are a vital part of the environment in Lake County and worldwide and

WHEREAS, Lake County’s rich natural resources support more than 300 species of birds, including the second-highest concentration in the State of California of breeding Clark’s and Western Grebes on Clear Lake and

WHEREAS, The presence of such a large number of birds here is an important attraction for tourists and a benefit to the local economy; there is much that individual homeowners, businesses and residents can do to provide safe passage and habitat for both migrating and resident birds and

WHEREAS, Lake County plays a critical role on an International scale for migratory birds that have no boundaries and the National Audubon Society and Bird Life International have recognized Clear Lake and surrounding areas as a Globally Important Bird Area (IBA)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lake County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims April, 2021 as Bird Appreciation Month in Lake County.



House Finch



Ruby-crowned Kinglet



White-breasted Nuthatch



As wildfires become greater and more frequent, fire-adapted species, struggle to keep up. Biologist Lynn Schofield will discuss how to protect the balance of vulnerable ecosystems. (Above) Black-backed Woodpecker.

Wildlife and wildfire will be April presentation for Redbud Audubon

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activities, and even fire-adapted species are struggling to keep up. In this talk Schofield will discuss how animals persist in a system defined by fire and what can be done to help protect the balance of these ecosystems.

Schofield's research covers a diversity of topics including bird migration, forest fire ecology, and wetland conservation. In addition to using her research to help inform effective conservation strategies, Lynn also works to help make connections with nature accessible to all. She is one of the core members of the Cal Falcons social media project, a trip leader for the Bay Area chapter of the Feminist Bird Club and a

long-time volunteer for the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory. As with all of Redbud Audubon's Zoom programs, participants are asked to register so the host can send you the link for the meeting.

To register for the program, click the link on page one of this newsletter or on the website. Submitting the form will register you for the meeting.

Participants will need to register separately each month for different programs as the Zoom link will change. A new Zoom link will be sent out at noon the day of the program for everyone who has registered. This procedure prevents anyone from disrupting the meeting by "bombing," it.

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 for which 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.



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 representatives 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.



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 a minute or two out of your time to do so.

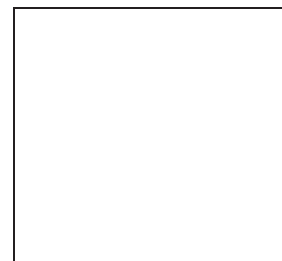
Even if you still prefer to receive the mailed version of the "Grebe", we would like to have your email for our records. Once in a while, we send out emails to our members about important events or bird sightings that may be of interest. You are also welcome

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.

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 joining just 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 donation 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