



The Western Grebe

Redbud Audubon Society, Inc.,

www.redbudaudubon.org

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Annual Redbud end-of-year picnic and officers' installation

Redbud Audubon Society members are looking forward to the group's first annual picnic since May 2019. That was the last picnic to be held before the Covid isolation period that started in March 2020.

Please join us for this low-key event. All Redbud Audubon Society members and friends are welcome to attend, starting at 5:30 p.m. We will also be installing officers, including new president Donna Mackiewicz, a Clearlake Oaks resident.

The event will be held at Lakeside County Park on Park Drive off of Soda Bay Road. The picnic is a potluck, but Audubon supplies hotdogs, buns and condiments. You are welcome to bring alternate meat or meat-substitute to grill if you prefer. Sodas and water will also be provided. Participants are encouraged to bring salad, beans, chips, or dessert to share.

Plan to arrive at 5:30 p.m. Look for us down by the lake at the picnic tables to the left of the launch ramp. The picnic is always a nice way to visit with and get to know chapter members, so please join us.



Join us for our annual picnic on Thursday May 18 at the Lakeside County Park.

REDBUD AUDUBON

End-of-year potluck picnic and officers' installation

Thursday, May 18, 5:30 PM

Join us at Lakeside County Park on Park Drive off Soda Bay Road

President's Message *by Roberta Lyons*



Roberta Lyons
casual event.

I hope everyone has been enjoying the return of our nesting swallows and other migratory birds. Terry Knight, the outdoor reporter for the Record Bee, has an excellent article about Cliff Swallows in the May 3 edition of the paper. I'd like to thank Terry for the great job he does reporting about our bird life here in Lake County. He isn't just all about fishing and hunting, he appreciates our opportunities for birding as well.

Terry points out that Cliff Swallows are a migratory swallow that fly all the way from South America to nest here. He also notes that the birds can sometimes be a pest for people with certain types of boat launching facilities. There are humane ways to keep birds

We're wrapping up the 2022-23 season of The Redbud Audubon Society with this newsletter and our picnic scheduled for Thursday May 18 at the County Park on the lakeshore in Big Valley. It would be lovely to see everyone in person at this fun and

from nesting in these areas and we hope that our lakeside property owners are aware of them as well as the Migratory Bird Act law that protects active nests from Feb. 1 through Sept. 1.

We have some exciting news about nesting herons and grebes. Although the heron rookery on Slater Island in Anderson Marsh State Historic Park is no longer active, we're happy to report that a new rookery has been observed on the other side of the creek from Slater Island. According to Henry Bornstein, an active boater and birder and board member of the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Association, there are at least 20 active Great Blue Heron nests in that rookery.

Also, hundreds of Western and Clark's Grebes have been seen rushing, calling, and nest building in Anderson Marsh. Let's hope they have a successful season and we soon start seeing baby grebes riding on their parent's backs.

Even though Redbud Audubon takes a break for the summer, that doesn't mean you have to! Get out early and enjoy the sounds of the glorious songbirds that make Lake County either their permanent or nesting home. There is nothing like the song of a Black-headed Grosbeak, or the chattering of an Oriole to start out your day!



A Western Grebe keeps a watchful eye near its clutch of eggs in a floating nest.



The grebes are doing their courtship dances now. Photo by Brad Barnwell.



A grebe with baby. Photo by Gae Henry.

New and returning members

Daniel Odonnell, Clearlake Oaks; Emily Whittlesey, Kelseyville; Lucy Hunter, Lakeport; Peggy Matela, Upper Lake; Robert Coyle, Kelseyville; Eleanor Neumuth, Lakeport; Vicky Maley, Lakeport; Kate Schmidt-Hopper, Hidden VI Lk; Candace McCorquodale, Hidden VI Lk; Jennifer Richardson, Upper Lake; Eric Thor Schack, Clearlake; Elizabeth Partridge, Clearlake; Nikki and Jerry White, Kelseyville; Patrick & Christina Reitz, Lakeport; and Jim Spahr, Lakeport.

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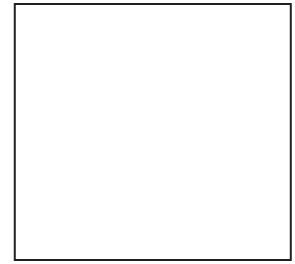
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YES Enroll me in both the National Audubon Society and local chapter Redbud Audubon. Start my subscription to **Audubon Magazine**, and **The Western Grebe** chapter newsletter.

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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.

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