



# The Magpie

The Wildlife Society / Sacramento-Shasta Chapter



Volume 14, Issue 2

May, 2006

## CHAPTER NEWS

### President's Message

Linda Leeman

As many of you may be aware, the national leadership of The Wildlife Society has launched a strategic planning process to develop a draft comprehensive plan for the organization's future. Key topics for discussion include TWS' mission, role within the wildlife and natural resources management and conservation community, core values and beliefs, and priority actions to be undertaken within various programmatic areas.

Representatives from the strategic planning committee attended the Western Section's annual meeting in February and encouraged members to get involved. While the Chapter's role is by definition local, I think it is crucial that our members speak up about what they think are important future issues to wildlife management and conservation at a national (or international) level and help influence the overall direction of our professional organization.

The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter covers a large and diverse geographic area and includes 23 counties throughout the Sacramento Valley and the interior mountainous region of northern California. Of the 10 fastest growing counties in California, 5 are within the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter area (Placer, San Joaquin, Calaveras, Sacramento, and Yolo).

The development and growth pressure that California as a whole, and the central valley and foothill areas specifically, will feel over the next decades is immense. Inevitably, this means conflicts between conserving precious wildlife habitat and open space while maintaining our agricultural traditions and providing economic opportunities. Wildlife professionals have an important role in shaping the society in which we live through a myriad of ways, such as advocating conservation, enforcing environmental regulations, reducing wildlife-human conflicts, and educating the public.

Therefore, I think it is imperative that TWS continue to evolve as an organization and help our members be better prepared for these challenges. We may not all agree on the best direction, but if you have ideas on how you would like to see TWS grow, please speak up. The best time for meaningful input is early in the process. You can contact TWS president **Robert Brown** ([rbrown@tamu.edu](mailto:rbrown@tamu.edu)), Executive Director **Michael Hutchins** ([tw@wildlife.org](mailto:tw@wildlife.org)), or any officers at the local level (see emails on back page) and we will make sure your input is passed on to the strategic planning committee.

### TWS Sacramento-Shasta Chapter Announces The Natural Resources Symposium

In this fast-paced world in which we live, it can be a challenge to keep on top of current developments and issues within the professional wildlife and ecology community. With this in mind, the Sacramento Chapter of The Wildlife Society is hosting a Natural Resources Symposium this year to encourage biologists and natural resource professionals to inform others who may be interested in their research, management, regulation, restoration, or conservation activities in the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter area. Our goal is to bring together such professionals and to facilitate discussion and the exchange of information, ideas, results, and the progress of work on natural communities, wildlife, and plants. This symposium will be an opportunity for you biologists to share your knowledge and issues concerning natural resources, and hopefully learn something new as well.

#### \*\*\*CALL FOR ABSTRACTS\*\*\*

The symposium is scheduled for October 26, 2006, and will be held in downtown Sacramento. The Chapter is requesting abstracts for a 20 minute presentation, including time for questions and answers. Written abstracts will be made available to all attendees. Please e-mail your abstracts to Linda Leeman at [LeemanL@edaw.com](mailto:LeemanL@edaw.com) no later than **September 15<sup>th</sup>**. More details on registration will follow.

## CHAPTER BUSINESS

### Treasurer's Report

*Kirsten Christopherson*

To date, the Chapter balance is \$17,855.08. Income for 2006 totals \$653.15 in membership dues, t-shirt sales, and interest generated on our bank account. Expenses for 2006 total \$2,598.71, and reflect the academic and travel scholarships awarded in January, as well as contributions to the TWS Western Section Annual Meeting and production of flyers for the Annual Meeting field trips.

### Chapter Meetings and Spring Social

The last Chapter business meeting was held on March 29, 2006 at the Granzella's Restaurant in Williams. The next business meeting will be held on:

**Saturday, May 20th, 2006**

**@ Hoppy Brewing Company**

**6300 Folsom Blvd, Sacramento**

Please join us for the **meeting at 4:30 pm**, and/or stay for the **Chapter Social at 6:30 pm**. Have a free beer on us while reconnecting with or meeting other members, or just to celebrate spring! Click [here](#) for a flyer with details and directions.

For those members in the northern portion of our Chapter service area who may not be able to attend on account of travel distance, please don't despair! We plan to have another social later this year at a more convenient location for you. Let us know if you would be interested in attending an event, say, in Chico? Email **Sara Lee** ([slee@esassoc.com](mailto:slee@esassoc.com)) with your feedback and suggestions.

### Website Updates

We continue to try to keep our website as current as possible. Please let us know if you find anything amiss with the links or any of the information posted: [www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta](http://www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta).

UPCOMING EVENTS, INFORMATION  
SOURCES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Walk on the Wildside

**Saturday, May 20th**

**10:00 am - 4:00 pm**

Join the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) Bufferlands and the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge for a Walk on the Wildside, a celebration of International Migratory Bird Day. Walk on the Wildside highlights local efforts to protect and restore Central Valley habitats. This free, family-oriented event includes tours, presentations, live animals, music, hands-on activities, informational exhibits, and more. Guided and self-guided tours are offered throughout the day. Explore a pristine valley oak riparian forest in search of migratory songbirds. Visit numerous wetland and riparian restoration projects. Enjoy a unique opportunity to see one of approximately four heron rookeries in Sacramento County on a Bufferlands guided tour. This rookery contains 67 active nests of great blue herons, great egrets, and double crested cormorants. Spotting scopes will be available for optimum viewing of these fascinating and beautiful birds.

The event is held at Beach Lake Park, near the town of Freeport. Visit [www.bufferlands.com](http://www.bufferlands.com) for a map to the event site.

For more info contact **Kevin Cassady** at (916) 875-9196 or [cassadyk@saccounty.net](mailto:cassadyk@saccounty.net).

### Friends of the Herbarium at CSU Chico Workshops

The schedule of spring and summer workshops by Friends of the Herbarium at CSU Chico is now available. Workshop titles are listed below -- details can be found at [www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html](http://www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html).

**June 10.** Introduction to Identifying Northern California Grasses (Poaceae)

**June 17.** Pollination Ecology in the Mountains of Butte County: Northern California plants - and the birds and the bees

**September 23.** Introduction to Keying the Sunflowers (Asteraceae)

**October 14.** Introduction to Wetland Delineation

**The American River Parkway Foundation Needs Volunteers!**

The American River Parkway Foundation needs volunteers for the following upcoming events:

**Saturday, May 20:** Folsom Dam 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration [www.usbr.gov/mp/arwec/](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/arwec/)

**Saturday, June 10:** Rex Cycles Support the Parkway benefit ride: [www.arpf.org/rex](http://www.arpf.org/rex) Event volunteers needed!

Please contact **Crystalaura Jackson** with any questions.

Volunteer Coordinator  
American River Parkway Foundation  
(916) 456-7423  
[info@arpf.org](mailto:info@arpf.org)

Thank you for volunteering on the American River Parkway!

## FEATURE ARTICLE

*One of our scholarship winners, **Shandin Rudesill** of Butte College, was recognized in the last issue of The Magpie. In this issue, we would like to introduce a new campus club, **Friends of the Wildlife Refuge at Butte College**, which was founded by Shandin Rudesill.*

### FRIENDS OF THE WILDLIFE REFUGE BUTTE COLLEGE, BUTTE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Butte Community College, a two-year college in Butte County, California, is home to the Butte College Wildlife Refuge. This semester a new campus club has been formed by volunteers for the Refuge. The club, locally known as Friends of the Refuge, or F.O.R., registered with the Associated Students of Butte College on February 8, 2006. We have ratified our constitution and the following mission statement:

*'The Friends of the Wildlife Refuge at Butte College are students, faculty, staff, administration, trustees, and area citizens working in coalition for the conservation and restoration of at the Butte College Wildlife Refuge.'*

The Friends of the Refuge will support the Butte College Nature Refuge in three principal ways.

- I. Study of the B.C. Nature Refuge. Scholarship and research activities concerning the refuge will be supported by club participation and

recognition. The Friends are dedicated to building understanding of the Refuge through science, public participation, communication facilitation, and education. The club will host lectures and field studies with experts from both on and off campus.

- II. Appreciation of the B.C. Nature Refuge.

The Friends join together in fellowship with all who enjoy the Nature Refuge. Members lead hikes, open to all, through the Nature Refuge. Regular club meetings and social events will be held. The Friends will develop and maintain a web site and a yearbook focusing on the Nature Refuge and the club. An email group and announcement service will facilitate discussion and public awareness of issues pertinent to the Refuge.

- III. Advocacy for the B.C. Nature refuge. Service activities will be organized for volunteers to help protect the Refuge. The Friends will participate in planning for Butte College, focusing on the main campus Nature Refuge. The Friends seek permanent protection of the B.C. Nature Refuge, and are involved in many projects from policy development to invasive plant removal.

If this interests you, please get involved! We are seeking club members, officers, and an advisor. We will need to raise funds, develop a volunteer base, and organize a network of allies on and off campus. We are carrying on the work done by many individuals over thirty years at Butte College. We respect the knowledge and experience of those already managing the Nature Refuge, and appreciate how much we have to learn from those who came before. We believe that nature has a value unto itself, that every species should be given habitat, and that it is our responsibility to steward the land. We seek to understand the natural history, cultural history, and archeology of the land. We hope to ensure future generations receive the gift of nature we enjoy today at our beautiful campus.

Please contact:  
Shandin Rudesill  
President, F.O.R.  
[shandin42@yahoo.com](mailto:shandin42@yahoo.com)  
530.680.5141

The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter welcomes comments and input from our members. If you have

suggestions for articles or things you'd like to see, please let us know! Contact any one of the board members.

**The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter of The Wildlife Society,  
1008 10<sup>th</sup> Street, PMB 245, Sacramento, CA 95814**

President- Linda Leeman ([LeemanL@edaw.com](mailto:LeemanL@edaw.com))

Secretary- Natalie Cull-Rodrigues ([Natalie@avminstrument.com](mailto:Natalie@avminstrument.com))

Treasurer-Kirsten Christopherson ([twssacshasta@surewest.net](mailto:twssacshasta@surewest.net))

Chapter Representative- Melinda Dorin ([mdorin@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mdorin@energy.ca.gov))

Past-President- Brett Furnas ([bfurnas@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:bfurnas@dfg.ca.gov))

**The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter of The Wildlife Society**  
**1008 10<sup>th</sup> Street, PMB 245**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**