



# The Magpie

The Wildlife Society / Sacramento-Shasta Chapter



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## CHAPTER NEWS

*Randi Logsdon*

Chapter of the year again! For the third consecutive year, the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter was given the Chapter of the Year award at the TWS-Western Section meeting in Sacramento. At the Chapter meeting in February, the board members for 2012 were introduced, and are introduced in this newsletter. Some new people stepped up to become officers this year, and to bring new talent and ideas to the Chapter.

The Board has been brainstorming workshops, symposia, mixers, and other social events for this year, including a barbecue and mixer in the northern part of the region. Some of these events include the Chapter's continued brown-bag seminar series, a Swainson's hawk workshop, the Chapter's annual Natural Resources symposium in November, and a potential symposium on raptors and wind-energy facilities. See announcements in the newsletters, and keep your eye on the website (<http://joomla.wildlife.org/sacramentoshasta/>), Twitter, and Facebook to get the latest details on these events.

The Chapter has a very energetic Professional Development Committee this year, working hard to plan the events, so there should be some fun and exciting things to look forward to.

Key words in this newsletter: 2012 Board of Directors, Nature Bowl, brown-bag series, Valley elderberry longhorn beetle, Teaming with Wildlife, Cosumnes River Preserve, scholarships, TWS annual conference, Swainson's hawk, Sacramento Zoo

## President's Message

*Canh Nguyen*

Congratulations to the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter for the Chapter of the Year award from Western Section! We did it again! That's three years in a row. Thanks to all the hard work the Chapter was able to accomplish. From the continued efforts to offer a diversity of activities that facilitate social networking and professional

development to further involvement in the broader Wildlife Society organization, the Chapter was able to accept this recognition with pride. Please see the nomination letter to get a better understanding of our accomplishments this past year.

As of this year, I am happy and excited to be President for another term. Let's use the momentum from last year and continue to offer more opportunities for our members to participate in the Chapter. I'm excited to have new board members and of course old ones to direct the Chapter's goals. Please join us at our next Executive Board meeting. Thanks and I look forward to meeting you at one of our events.

## Scholarships

The Chapter didn't receive any academic scholarship applications by the December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, so the entire annual scholarship budget is available during this round. The next deadline for academic scholarship application submissions is **June 1, 2012**, and travel grant requests need to be made at least two months prior to the event. For more information go to:

[http://joomla.wildlife.org/SacramentoShasta/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=202&Itemid=314](http://joomla.wildlife.org/SacramentoShasta/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=202&Itemid=314)

## Executive Board Happenings

*Randi Logsdon*

The Board met at the TWS-Western Section annual meeting at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento on February 1. The meeting was standing-room only, and members from all over the Sacramento-Shasta region attended. The new board for 2012 was introduced as follows. Short biographies will be added to the Chapter's website.

Immediate Past-President/President - Canh Nguyen  
Vice President - Carlos Alvarado  
Treasurer - Sean Marquis  
Secretary - Sandi Jacks

Chapter Representative - Laura Patterson  
Newsletter Editor - Randi Logsdon  
Professional Development Chair - Tracy Walker  
Membership Chair - Melinda Bradbury  
Scholarship Chair - Dawn LoBaugh  
Technology Chair - Kirsten Christopherson  
Northern Region Outreach Chair - Michelle Havens

The Board is voting to accept the 2012 budget. The Chapter contributed \$500 to the TWS-Western Section meeting this year, plus donated prizes for the student raffle, and voted on contributing \$100 to the Western Section to send Cynthia Perrine to Washington D.C. for the Teaming with Wildlife Fly-in event. This event, which TWS National participates in each year, is an advocacy and education event focused around securing nongame funding for state fish and wildlife agencies.

The Board is also discussing having members volunteer as docents at the Cosumnes River Preserve to help educate children and the public about local wildlife and ecosystems.

#### **Our Next Board Meeting**

Our next Board meeting will be held at the **Hoppy Brewing Company** in Sacramento on **April 12<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 7:00 PM**. Please feel free to attend or let us know if there is a topic you would like us to discuss.

### **Chapter Representative to the Western Section Report**

*Laura Patterson*

Most of the Board's business over the past three meetings has involved budgeting, planning, and discussing the results of the 2012 Annual Conference in Sacramento. We had one of the highest attendance counts this time at over 500 registrants. All pre-conference symposia also met or exceeded predicted attendance numbers, so the Section appears to have made a decent profit from the conference, including generating a lot of money for Student Affairs.

Student Affairs has a new Chairperson, David Wyatt, professor at Sacramento City College; and Conservation Affairs has a new Chairperson, Armand Gonzales. Once a mission statement and definition on the boundaries of creating and advocating policy without encountering conflicts of interest as a non-profit have been developed, the hope is that in time every Chapter will have either their own Conservation Affairs Committee or at least a representative that actively participates in the Western Section's committee.

Don Yasuda, Section Representative to National, is working on developing an Adopt-a-Student program at the Section level similar to National's. It would link professional TWS members with student members. National is trying to coordinate this program with their Mentor program since they apparently have more mentors than mentees at this time.

Professional Development is planning two bat workshops this year: Bat Ecology at Dye Creek Preserve near Los Molinos in April, and Bat Acoustics at Swanton Pacific in Santa Cruz in May.

The Board just recently voted to approve supporting the establishment of a new Student Chapter at Cal Poly.

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### **Membership**

So far we have 110 members for 2012. If you're a member and you haven't done so already, please renew your membership for 2012. If you're not already a member, please join the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter to help support the Chapter. Membership dues will help keep workshops affordable, offer more scholarships, maintain the website, support community outreach projects, and offer great social/mixer events. Membership is \$10 and can be accessed through the website below:

[http://joomla.wildlife.org/SacramentoShasta/images/pdfs/chaptersignup\\_formfillable.doc](http://joomla.wildlife.org/SacramentoShasta/images/pdfs/chaptersignup_formfillable.doc)

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### **Treasurer's Report**

*Sean Marquis*

As of January 26, 2012, the Chapter balance was:

ING CD	\$ 10,004.23
ING Savings	\$ 1,910.76
<u>B of A Checking</u>	<u>\$18,029.28</u>
Total	\$ 29,944.27

Recent income and expenditures (December 6, 2011 – January 26, 2012) were:

Expenses:  
\$ 139.05 Board Meeting  
\$ 442.16 NRS Catering  
\$ 625.00 Webmaster fee for 2011  
\$ 300.00 Winter Mixer 2011 contribution  
\$ 80.00 Certification Workshop contribution  
**Total \$ 1,586.21**

Income:

\$ 970 membership dues

\$ 11.35 banking interest

**Total \$ 981.35**

\$ 400 is outstanding in contributions to AEP for mixers. Lower income is expected this year, so fewer expenses are anticipated. The ING CD rolled over, and is due to mature on June 24, 2012.

## UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Brown-bag Seminars

The Chapter is continuing its brown-bag seminars this year, on the second Tuesday of April, June, August, and October. These seminars are informational and interesting and they are free! The first is scheduled for **April 10<sup>th</sup>** and will be located at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife building at 2800 Cottage Way in Sacramento. Angela Calderaro will discuss the Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle life history, identification, and survey and mitigation protocols.



### Nature Bowl Science and Conservation Competition

Semi-finals are underway for the Nature Bowl, an elementary school activity-based competition held each spring, which receives contributions from the Chapter. The Chapter donated \$500 this year. This popular program increases the science and conservation literacy of third- to sixth-grade students in the Sacramento Valley and Foothills. The Nature Bowl is open to students from any school, group or organized youth club in the area. Teams consist of three to seven children each. Semi-finals were held in March, and the last semi-final will be held at the Nimbus Hatchery in Rancho Cordova on **April 10 and April 12**. Several groups will advance to the final event that will be held **May 21, 2012**, at CSU Sacramento.

Coaches attended workshops to help prepare students for the competition. Members are welcome to attend the event and show support for the students, and are

encouraged to volunteer next year as coaches.

For more information about the Nature Bowl, please call The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) at (916) 358-2353 or go to the DFG website at [www.dfg.ca.gov/education/Naturebowl](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/education/Naturebowl).

### Swainson's Hawk Workshop – Save the Dates!

Melinda Bradbury



The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter is hosting a Swainson's hawk workshop, which will be taught by Mike Bradbury. Mike has been involved with Swainson's hawk protection, conservation, and research activities for 20 years. He is a member of the California Swainson's Hawk Technical Advisory Committee and lead author of the species' recommended survey methodology and risk assessment.

The training has two options, either a 1-day classroom session or the 1-day classroom session with 3 field days. The field training follows the recommended survey methodology found at

[www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/nongame/docs/swain\\_proto.pdf](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/nongame/docs/swain_proto.pdf).

The training topics include: Information on identification, nest and breeding ecology, and presence/absence surveying; the hawk's legal status, protection requirements, and life history; population trends, types and effects of disturbance, and how to develop a risk analysis; information and the process for consulting with DFG, if needed; and language that has been developed for Swainson's hawk Incidental Take Permits in the past.

The tentative training schedule is as follows:

**April 12** – Classroom session (8:30 AM – 4:00 PM) with practical application exercises;

**April 13** – Pre-nesting survey (full day with lunch break);

**May 11** – Post egg-laying survey (full day with lunch break);

**June 21** – Pre-fledging survey (full day with lunch break).

Upon registering, additional information (confirmation, agenda, field start times and meeting locations, complete recommended equipment lists, and any other additional information) will be emailed to the registrant. To get a registration form or for more information,

contact [melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net](mailto:melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net) or [sac.shasta@gmail.com](mailto:sac.shasta@gmail.com).

### Sacramento Zoo Conservation Initiative

The Sacramento Zoo is starting a new conservation initiative. The Zoo would like to include at least one local conservation project each year, and is looking for projects that require relatively small amounts of funding in future years. The project, if selected, would be guaranteed at least \$5,000 and receive a portion of an additional \$15,000 based upon the percentage of votes it receives from the Zoo visitors. The project will be selected in the fall, voting will last the following year (January – December), and the money would be awarded in January of the following year. The Zoo is tapping into our membership to try to find worthwhile projects that would consider taking Zoo funding. Please contact Ray Wack, 916-808-8808, [rfwack@ucdavis.edu](mailto:rfwack@ucdavis.edu), if you have a project you would like to propose.

### TWS Annual Conference in Portland, Oregon



TWS-National's annual conference will be held in Portland, Oregon, on **October 13-17, 2012**. The meeting will include workshops, symposia, panel discussions, breakfast roundtables, special poster sessions, contributed papers (oral presentations), and contributed posters. TWS invites submission of contributed papers and posters on topics of wildlife ecology, management, conservation, education, or policy. Presentations will not be published, so TWS encourages reports from the author's most recent scientific investigations and management experiences. Presentations will be audio recorded and made available to conference attendees at the conclusion of the conference. The deadline for contributed papers and posters is **April 13<sup>th</sup>**, and the link for submission is <http://joomla.wildlife.org/documents/portland/call.for.papers.pdf>. Registration for the conference will open in June.

### JOB and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Fish and Wildlife Technician** positions – DFG, postings on [www.nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=98](http://www.nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=98)

**93.** Open Exam bulletin for **Environmental Scientist** (multiple State agencies) is on <http://jobs.ca.gov/Bulletin/Bulletin/Index?examCD=9PB01>. If you are on the Environmental Scientist list, you can check for vacancies at [http://jobs.spb.ca.gov/wvpos/search\\_p.cfm?classcode=0762](http://jobs.spb.ca.gov/wvpos/search_p.cfm?classcode=0762).

Stillwater Science in Davis is looking for an **environmental scientist/planner**. Send a cover letter with a resume and salary history in MS Word or PDF format to [resume@stillwatersci.com](mailto:resume@stillwatersci.com).

ECORP Consulting in Rocklin is looking for a **wildlife biologist**. Send resume and salary history to [jobs@ecorpconsulting.com](mailto:jobs@ecorpconsulting.com).

ICF in Sacramento is looking for an **on-call (contract) biologist** to conduct avian surveys at wind-energy facilities. Apply online through [www.icfi.com/careers](http://www.icfi.com/careers).

**Postdoctoral Scholar:** Impacts of Climate Change on American Pikas in National Parks. The position will be based in Clinton Epps' research group (<http://fw.oregonstate.edu/labs/epps/index.htm>) in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR. For more information, contact Clinton Epps at: [Clinton.epps@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Clinton.epps@oregonstate.edu), 541-737-2478.

Check out The Wildlife Society's Wildlife Careers Online: <http://careers.wildlife.org>, and the TWS-West job site at: [http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=195&Itemid=286](http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=195&Itemid=286). For local job announcements, check: [http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=196&Itemid=331](http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=196&Itemid=331).

If anyone has job or volunteer opportunities to post in our next newsletter, please contact the editor.

### \*\*\*NOTICE\*\*\*

**Through April** - Guided Wetland Tours at Gray Lodge Wildlife Area (WA). Guides will lead groups on a half-mile walk through the Gray Lodge sanctuary and can be customized to include specific information you request in advance. Tours are available throughout the week. Please call the Gray Lodge WA Naturalist Office for reservations at (530) 846-7505 or e-mail [ldieter@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:ldieter@dfg.ca.gov).

Flyway Nights Lecture Series, 7 p.m. at the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Headquarters Building. These lectures occur on **the first Thursday of each month, November through April**. A \$5 donation per person or \$10 per family is suggested at the door. Topics are generally wetland-related and feature local issues relating to wetlands and/or avian species, ethnobotany, fish passage, or local history. For more information see [www.yolobasin.org](http://www.yolobasin.org).

Public Tour of Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, 9 a.m. to noon, with an experienced field trip leader on the **second Saturday of each month, Oct.-June**. View 16,000-acres of flooded seasonal and permanent wetlands, native grasslands and young riparian forests. Look for migrating and resident waterfowl, shorebirds, songbirds, raptors, and wading birds. Visit [www.yolobasin.org](http://www.yolobasin.org) for more information.

Wildlife watchers and other visitors are reminded to buy passes before visiting Wildlife Areas and Reserves at [www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing) or one of DFG's licensing offices.



## Bear Awareness Film Contest

The results are in! Visit <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/BearFilmContest/TopFilms.html> to see the winning videos of the "Bear Aware" youth film contest. This outreach program allows students to inform the public of human-bear interaction problems that occur primarily in the Lake Tahoe region.

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## Remember

By National membership vote and a change in bylaws, Associate Wildlife Biologists and Certified Wildlife Biologists must minimally be members in good standing of The Wildlife Society to retain their Certifications. An updated certification directory is available by contacting [Shannon@wildlife.org](mailto:Shannon@wildlife.org).

*The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter welcomes comments and input from our members. If you have suggestions for articles, questions you want answered, things you'd like to see us do, or events to announce, please let us know! Contact any one of the Board members.*

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*Professional Development Committee Chair – Tracy Walker (tracy.walker@aecom.com)*

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*Northern Region Outreach Chair - Michelle Havens (michelle\_havens@fws.gov)*

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