



# The Magpie

The Wildlife Society / Sacramento-Shasta Chapter



Volume 20, Issue 2

July 2012

## CHAPTER NEWS

*Randi Logsdon*

It's been a busy year! First off, the Board decided to drop issuance of the Magpie from four times a year to three times a year. There will be a newsletter issued in March (winter/spring), July (summer), and November (fall). This gives more time for announcements and reviews of past events, and more time for you—the membership—to send articles about your work or topics you think would be of interest.

In the first half of 2012, the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter completed a successful Swainson's hawk workshop and two brown-bag meetings. The Chapter also had a social event with the UC Davis Chapter in Davis and a spring mixer in April.

More events are being planned, including a holiday mixer and more brown-bag lectures, as well as our annual Natural Resources Symposium in October or November. We hope to also have a social mixer in our northern region in September. Some of this is announced in this newsletter, but also keep your eye on the Chapter website and membership mailings for updated announcements.

Key words in this newsletter: Nature Bowl, brown-bag series, Valley elderberry longhorn beetle, vernal pools, rattlesnakes, scholarships, TWS annual conference, Swainson's hawk, Sacramento Zoo, election nominations, TWS-Western Section, "Fly-in" event, mixers.

## President's Message

*Canh Nguyen*

Wow, this year is moving by fairly quickly for me. We're in the month of July already, halfway through the calendar year. The Chapter has been quite busy with mixers, brown bag seminars, and scholarship applications. Please read sections below for additional information on each of the items. Speaking of scholarships, it is good to see that there are more

applicants this year than usual. As a reminder, the Chapter offers travel and academic scholarships to our members. It was a very tough decision for the scholarship committee to decide on the appropriate recipient. Our next executive board meeting is next Thursday, **October 25, 2012** at Hoppy's Brewery on Folsom Blvd. in Sacramento. It is open to all; it's a great opportunity to see the roles of the officers, what we discuss, and possible introduction of new ideas. Please continue to follow us on Facebook or Twitter, or go "old school" and give me or any of the officers a call.

## Scholarships

*Laura Patterson*

The Chapter received two requests for \$1000 academic scholarships during the most recent round, but voted to award just one to Kevin Ringelman, a PhD candidate in the Ecology Graduate Group at UC Davis, studying waterfowl predator-prey dynamics. Some of the money will be used to help pay for long-term data analysis and to defray the costs of publishing his work. The next deadline for academic scholarship applications is **December 1<sup>st</sup>**.

There is still money available for travel grants, but remember that requests must be submitted no less than 2 months prior to the proposed trip.

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 discussed staying on budget after two mixers in April and the sold-out Swainson's hawk workshop in the spring (see articles below), and made the final decision on the academic scholarship award. The Board is planning additional mixers, including a tentative event in the northern part of our region and future brownbag

lectures on rattlesnakes and maybe burrowing owls. The Board also discussed planning the annual Natural Resources Symposium, which will likely be held in late October or early November. The Board is looking for a new northern region coordinator to help us plan events in the northern region. Please contact any member of the Board if you are interested.

The board voted to have three newsletters per year, instead of sending them out every season. The Board also voted to allow UC Davis Chapter students free membership to the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter. We also discussed having a UC Davis Chapter representative contribute to the Magpie again.

Election nominations are coming up for next year's Board of Directors, so please send your nominations to our membership chair, Melinda Bradbury ([melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net](mailto:melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net)).

A motion for the Chapter to support the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Coalition statement on the President's FY13 budget was approved by the Board. The LWCF website is <http://www.lwcfcoalition.org/take-action.html>, and a list of funded programs may be found at <http://www.lwcfcoalition.org/usa-conservation.html>.

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

Our next Board meeting will be held at the **Hoppy Brewery, 6300 Folsom Blvd.** in Sacramento on **October 25<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. Check with our website or a board member for any possible change.

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

*Laura Patterson*

The Western Section's Executive Board met via conference call on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Most of the discussion focused on programs and procedures with only one somewhat noteworthy vote: The Board approved creating a retired members' registration fee for conferences similar to a student members' fee. We also approved the budget for the bat acoustics workshop and a contribution to the National conference in Portland in the form of sending two workshop presenters.

In annual conference news, the Doubletree in Sacramento was chosen for 2013, and it appears that we will be traveling to Reno in 2014. In workshop news, the bat ecology workshop was well-received, and apparently they captured a new species (*i.e.*, never

before captured during the workshop, not new to science!).

In conservation and outreach news, Cynthia Perrine flew back to Washington D.C. for a one-day "Fly-in Event," where approximately 40 people were flown in, briefly trained in talking points regarding encouraging legislators to support funding state wildlife programs, and then sent off to spread the message to Congressional representatives. John McNerney took over local coordination with the American Association of University Women's UC Davis Tech Trek girls' science and math camp. Armand Gonzales has been leading monthly Conservation Affairs Committee conference calls. Currently the committee is working on a position letter to the City of Folsom addressing their proposed Highway 50 Bypass, and they're looking into drafting another letter to BLM to encourage them to decommission illegal off-highway vehicle roads that lead to private lands, including mitigation properties, in the desert.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or want to get involved in any Western Section programs.

---

#### **Membership**

Membership as of April 12 was 170 total, with 24 additional members from the Swainson's hawk workshop. 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).

---

#### **Treasurer's Report**

*Sean Marquis*

As of July 11, 2012, the Sacramento-Shasta balance was \$28,186.18. Primary sources of income over the past quarter were from memberships and a profit from the Swainson's hawk workshop. Primary expenses were from social mixers, operating costs, and costs associated with the Swainson's hawk workshop. We anticipate scholarship-giving and more mixers over the summer. We are on track to meet our annual budget, and we look forward to maintaining that course.

ING CD	\$ 10,000.00
ING Savings	\$ 1,940.52
<u>B of A Checking</u>	<u>\$ 16,245.66</u>
Total	\$ 28,186.18

Recent income and expenditures (April 12, 2012 – July 11, 2012) were:

Expenses:

\$ 170.55	Board Meeting
20.00	Lunch for brown bag speaker
298.03	Davis mixer
247.16	Spring mixer
156.00	Mailbox
8131.53	Swainson's hawk workshop
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,023.27</b>

Income:

\$ 530.00	membership dues
14.94	banking interest
8350.00	workshop registration
<u>30.00</u>	<u>paraphernalia sales</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,924.94</b>

---

### Davis Student Chapter Update

Monica Stupaczuk



Eight members from the UC Davis Student Chapter attended this year's Western Section Conference. Four students received reduced registration due to a generous donation, one student gave an oral presentation, and another participated in the poster session.

This Spring Quarter we had a very successful Picnic Day. Our annual photo contest and silent auction had 54 submissions and our mammal tracks matching game was popular with both children and adults. Speakers for the quarter included Don Yasuda from the Sac-Shasta Chapter, who came and talked to students about government job opportunities, and graduate student Matthew Young, who gave a presentation on both recent and historic anthropogenic physical alterations and biological changes to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. In May, a weekend Intro to Backpacking trip in Santa Cruz was organized to provide students with outdoor experience and skills to prepare them for future opportunities in the field. Our chapter also participated in the Center for Snake Conservation's 2012 Spring Snake Count. Adam Clause led us on a herpetology hike at Stebbins Cold Canyon and allowed students to observe and assist with collecting samples and measurements for the Stebbins Canyon Reserve

reference herp collection. Our final event of the quarter was a speed networking and mixer held at Sudwerks Restaurant and Brewery in Davis to give students the opportunity to engage and network with wildlife professionals. Thank you to all the professionals that participated!

And lastly, we have an energetic incoming group of officers, including President Karin Petrites, Vice-President Raquel Ramirez, Chapter Representative Steven Stiles, Publicity Officer Rachel Fichman, Treasurer Erika Brown, Secretary Janette Perez-Jimenez, and Marketing Officer Sarah Edwards.

---

### UPCOMING EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Brown-bag Seminar on Rattlesnakes



The Chapter will host a third seminar on **August 16th** at HDR, 2379 Gateway Oaks, Suite 200, Sacramento, John Tarbell Conference Room. Mike Cardwell, a local rattlesnake expert, will discuss courtship behavior in California rattlesnakes, and the correlation between rattlesnake courtship and the epidemiology of rattlesnake bites.

#### TWS-Western Section Announcements

TWS-Western Section (TWS-West) is accepting contributions to future editions of its newsletter, including research briefs, original stories or poems, photographs, artwork, memorials, or anything else you might want to share with your fellow wildlife professionals or students. Submit content to Linda Leeman ([LWLeeman@gmail.com](mailto:LWLeeman@gmail.com)). You may find the Western Section spring newsletter at [http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=182&Itemid=343](http://joomla.wildlife.org/Western/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=182&Itemid=343).

TWS-West announced two Professional Development events: a Natural Resource Communications Workshop, **August 13-15, 2012**, at Humboldt State University, Arcata; and a Wildlife Society Certification Workshop, **August 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.**, in Encinitas (just north of San Diego). A similar Natural Resources Communications workshop will be offered in Chico **January 7-11, 2013**. Information may be found on the

Western Section's website. Watch for an announcement in the November issue of the Magpie for the Chico event.

## TWS National Annual Conference in Portland, Oregon



Registration for The Wildlife Society 19th Annual Conference is now open. The conference will take place from **October 13-18** at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon.

Register and save with the early registration discount. Go to <http://wildlifesociety.org/> and click "Register here." In addition, TWS is currently running a special offer: register by **August 3** and become eligible to one of two iPads. Winners will also be announced in the August edition of *The Wildlifer*.

Please note that there is an additional \$25 fee for registered conference attendees to attend the Opening Night Reception, and an additional \$15 for the Closing Night Reception.

For every registration TWS receives, \$5 will be donated towards a carbon offset program. This year's program is The Conservation Fund – Gilchrist Project. Read additional information about the program at <http://www.conservationfund.org/west/oregon>.

## 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.

## PAST EVENTS

### Brownbag Seminars

*Tracy Walker*



The Chapter hosted two brown-bag seminars so far this year. The first was on April 10<sup>th</sup>, given by Angela Calderaro, who discussed the valley elderberry longhorn beetle life history, identification, and survey and mitigation protocols. The second was on June 12<sup>th</sup>, given by Dr. Jamie Kneitel from CSUS, who discussed vernal pool characteristics and how they are affected by climate change.



### Mixers

*Tracy Walker*

The Chapter held two mixers this spring. Our first social mixer was on April 26<sup>th</sup>, and included a nice array of food and beer available to sample, and good conversation among established and new professionals. Our second social mixer was a huge success; we jointly hosted, along with the UC Davis Student Chapter, a speed networking event on May 31<sup>st</sup>, at which students could interact with and receive advice on wildlife careers from a wide variety of wildlife professionals in a short amount of time. The mixer was held at Sudwerks Brewery in Davis, and approximately 16-20 students and 20-25 professionals attended. This was our first year trying this type of event, suggested by the UC Davis Student Chapter Past-President Monica Stupaczuk, and we plan on repeating the event next year.

### Nature Bowl Competition

Students from six northern California elementary schools had a hands-on nature experience--their reward for a job well done in the 28th annual Nature Bowl competition. The winners of the competition, students from Placer, El Dorado, Sacramento, and Yolo counties, assisted the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) with stocking trout at Jenkinson Lake on May 30.

The Chapter received a thank you letter from DFG for being a regular contributor to the Nature Bowl.



## Swainson's Hawk Workshop

Melinda Bradbury



The Swainson's hawk workshop, which started with a classroom session in April and had its last field visit June 21, was a sold-out success with a waiting list. There was a lot of discussion and time for questions during the classroom session. The workshop focused on the Central Valley population of Swainson's hawks, identification, ecology, behavior, and habitat needs. The survey protocol posted on the DFG website and the DFG staff report were all discussed. The people who took the field portion are wrapping up "homework" -- tracking a nest and creating maps to send to Mike Bradbury, the instructor. Field participants seem happy to track nests and learn about the differences in survey times. The workshop got good reviews on the evaluation form, and it sounds like in a few years it could be repeated. The chapter made \$798.46 plus \$240 in memberships, and gained 24 new members. We also sold 3 water bottles.

## JOB and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Fish and Wildlife Technician** positions – DFG, postings on [www.nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=9893](http://www.nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=9893). For the latest information on seasonal openings, visit the DFG website at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/jobs/vacancies/seasonal.asp>. Open Exam bulletin for **Environmental Scientist** (multiple State agencies) is on <http://jobs.ca.gov/Bulletin/Bulletin/Index?examCD=9PBO1>. 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).

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\*\*\*

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.

## 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.*

### The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter of The Wildlife Society

1017 L Street #245, Sacramento, CA 95814

President – Canh Nguyen ([cvnguyen@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:cvnguyen@dfg.ca.gov))

Vice President – Carlos Alvarado ([carlos.alvarado@cardno.com](mailto:carlos.alvarado@cardno.com))

Secretary – Sandi Jacks ([sjacks@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:sjacks@dfg.ca.gov))

Treasurer – Sean Marquis ([sean2377@gmail.com](mailto:sean2377@gmail.com))

Chapter Representative to Western Section – Laura Patterson ([lpatters@water.ca.gov](mailto:lpatters@water.ca.gov))

Newsletter Editor – Randi Logsdon ([randilogsdon@gmail.com](mailto:randilogsdon@gmail.com))

Membership Chair – Melinda Bradbury ([melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net](mailto:melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net))

Technology Chair – Kirsten Christopherson ([twssacshasta@surewest.net](mailto:twssacshasta@surewest.net))

Professional Development Committee Chair – Tracy Walker

([tracy.walker@aecom.com](mailto:tracy.walker@aecom.com))

Scholarship Chair – Dawn LoBaugh ([dawn.lobaugh@hdrinc.com](mailto:dawn.lobaugh@hdrinc.com))

Representative for UC Davis Student Chapter – Karin Petrites ([kdpetrites@ucdavis.edu](mailto:kdpetrites@ucdavis.edu))

**The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter of The Wildlife Society**  
**1017 L street #245**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**