



The Magpie

The Wildlife Society / Sacramento-Shasta Chapter



Volume 22, Issue 3

November 2013

CHAPTER NEWS

Randi Logsdon

It's already close to the end of the year of 2013, and a lot has happened for the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter this year. We had our brown bags, our social events, our burrowing owl workshop, and our Natural Resources Symposium, with a very active Board, good membership turnout, and a lot of good times.

Now it's that time of year for the Board to elect its officers for 2014. Some of the Board members have served for several consecutive years, and some have joined just recently. The Board is always looking for new members to get involved. If you are interested in joining or giving feedback to the Board regarding any aspect of the Chapter, please consider joining us at our next Board elections meeting or contact any member of the Board.

Every year we put out tremendous effort to provide the best professional, social, and learning opportunities for our membership. Each new year we are challenged with meeting and exceeding these accomplishments. With our holiday social mixer and elections ahead of us, the year isn't over yet! We are looking forward to you coming out and helping us see 2013 out with a bang.



Key words in this issue: Scholarships, Nature Bowl, TWS Western Section Meeting, Creek Week, wetlands, headwaters, burrowing owl, back-to-school mixer, Chico mixer, NRS symposium, jobs, wildlife tours, eagles, Swainson's hawk, holiday mixer

President's Message

Carlos Alvarado

With the holiday season, end of the year

approaching fast, and the summer field season behind us, hopefully some of us can slow down and enjoy a well-deserved break and celebrate with our families and friends. Winter sometimes is the "slow



season" for many of us and that allows us the opportunity to sit back and reflect on what we, personally and as a chapter, have accomplished. As your president, I have seen many of the goals of the Chapter achieved. To name a few: with the help of board and chair members, and countless volunteer hours our members have committed, the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter hosted the Burrowing Owl Workshop, the Natural Resources Symposium, and a handful of well-attended brownbags and mixers, providing learning and networking opportunities both here in Sacramento and in the northern portion of our Chapter's boundary. We are also planning a Holiday Mixer with AEP and APA coming up (read on for more information). We continue to improve our news and notifications through Facebook and email blasts to keep you up to date with events and important news. We also expanded our membership to student chapters within our Chapter boundaries in order to provide students with a forum where they can meet and

interact with professional wildlife biologists and ensure continuation in the Society past the student chapter life.

All of the goals achieved this year would not have been possible without the help and enthusiasm from all of your board members, volunteers and sponsors. Having said that, if you, or someone you know would like to get involved in the Chapter, now is the time to take the challenge, since we are currently accepting Nomination Requests for new officers. If you are interested, send your nomination to the Chapter's email address (sac.shasta@gmail.com) or get in contact with a Chapter Officer (see our web page for email addresses). Positions currently open are Vice-President (aka President Elect), Treasurer, Western Section Representative, Newsletter Editor, Scholarship Coordinator, and Professional Development Chair.

There are also outstanding goals yet to achieve and workshops to plan (details below), but those will wait until next year. As your soon-to-be Immediate Past-President, I look forward to continuing to pursue these items within the framework developed by our incoming Board. Finally, I would like to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your 2013 President. It has been a pleasure working alongside many great people and getting to know so many of you at different events through the year. I look forward to seeing you either at the Holiday Mixer or throughout 2014!

Scholarships

Randi Logsdon

The Chapter has received one scholarship application for travel to the TWS Western Section meeting in Reno. Hurry to take the opportunity to get your scholarship application in for your academic projects or travel to the next TWS western section or national meeting. The deadline for academic scholarship applications is **December 1st**. Travel scholarships are due at least two months before the event, which would be **November 27th** for the Reno meeting. We also now have a scholarship available for TWS certification. Get your applications in now if you are interested! See

our website for details on how to apply and good luck!

Executive Board Happenings

Randi Logsdon

The Board voted to improve the Chapter's website by establishing an online registration database to be used at Chapter workshops. The Board decided this was a logical step to ensure registration processes for events go smoothly. The Board also voted to add the Chapter's name to TWS National's letter to the U.S. House and Senate to voice support for funding State Wildlife Grant programs, as well as other funds that benefit wildlife.

At our Board meeting on November 19th, the Board discussed the successful turnouts at the burrowing owl workshop and natural resources symposium and the good revenue they brought in. The Board is discussing an eagle workshop in spring of 2014, including a biology/life history lecture and a session on permitting regulations, as well as another possible Swainson's hawk workshop in late spring.

The Board also voted on its outreach budget, including donating to Creek Week again, the Nature Bowl, and the TWS Western section meeting.

The Board would like to introduce our new acting Technology Chair, Erin Aquino, and to thank Erin for joining us. Erin is an Environmental Scientist with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The Board is looking forward to our 2014 elections. Position descriptions will be sent to our membership prior to the elections meeting (see below), so if any of the positions sound interesting to you, please attend.

Our Next Board Meeting

Our next Board meeting will be held on **January 7, 2014, at 5:30 P.M, location TBD**. 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 the location.

Chapter Representative to the Western Section Report

Laura Patterson

The Western Section Board met twice since the last newsletter: once as a conference call in late July, mostly to discuss the upcoming annual conference in Reno, and once in person at our annual retreat (this time in Cambria, September 20-22) to primarily discuss strategic planning for the Section over the next three to five years. First, regarding the annual meeting, the organizing committee made a fair number of changes in the conference schedule, which hopefully will work out better for those who attend. The Sacramento-Shasta Chapter meeting will be held after the poster session on Wednesday night. I hope to see many of you there! Second, the Western Section Board will hopefully be unveiling the Draft Strategic Plan to the members at the annual conference. Board members have been working on subcommittees since the September meeting to complete the draft on time. Some of the main topics the Board felt were important to work toward in the future through this strategic planning exercise are developing a communication plan, increasing member involvement, enhancing the careers of early wildlife professionals, and being an active voice in science-based decision making. Look forward to lots of positive changes both at the Section level and the Chapter level as a result.

Membership

Melinda Dorin-Bradbury

We are at our end of the year slow-down for membership. Membership in the Chapter continues to be on a calendar cycle, so anyone who became a member through the Natural Resources Symposium is a member for 2014. We also generate a lot of memberships when people renew their National membership dues or for the Western Section Conference. We will report membership numbers right after the Conference in Reno. If you do not normally renew through National or the Western Section, please renew through the Chapter at http://www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/about_us.php or contact me at melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net to get information on membership. We also like to get updates on

email addresses when things change. We are starting our planning for 2014, and there are many great things about being a member in the Chapter.

PDC Report

Lily Douglas

The Professional Development Committee had a busy year, putting on the Burrowing Owl Workshop, Natural Resources Symposium, mixers, and other events for all of our Chapter members! Next year, the Committee will have a new chair, and we encourage any interested members to participate. Help make the Chapter what you want it to be! And see you at the holiday mixer on December 12!

Treasurer's Report

Sean Marquis



As of October 8, 2013, the Sacramento-Shasta Chapter balance was \$31,560.05.

ING CD	\$ 10,010.06
ING Savings	\$ 1,995.77
Calfirst CD	\$ 6,050.00 (estimate)
PayPal	\$ 3,824.20
<u>B of A Checking</u>	<u>\$ 7,572.40</u>
Total	\$ 31,560.05 (estimate)

Recent income and expenditures (June 6, 2013 - October 8, 2013) were:

Expenses:

\$ 193.28	June Board meetings
114.77	Professional-student event
200.00	Chico mixer
249.84	September mixer
2,378.78	Merchandise purchase
1,195.07	Burrowing owl workshop costs
21.64	Lunch for brown bag speaker

Total \$4,623.54

Income:

\$1,300.00	Membership
8,867.83	Burrowing owl workshop
351.37	NRS registrations
486.00	Merchandise sales
31.12	Bank interest (estimate)

Total \$11,036.32 (estimate)

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holiday Mixer



**Thursday, December 12, 2013,
5:30 - 8 PM, Gallery 21Ten,
2110 K Street, Sacramento**

Join Association of Environmental Professionals, American Planning Association, and TWS in toasting in the holiday season; first round is on the hosts! Register by **December 10** at the AEP website under upcoming programs, <http://superior.califaep.org>. Cost free to EAP, APA and TWS members that respond by **November 26**, or \$10 for non-members at the door. For more information contact sac.shasta@gmail.com or visit the AEP website.

2014 Nature Bowl

The Chapter is contributing \$500 to the 2014 Nature Bowl, CDFW's environmental science competition for students in the 3rd to 6th grades. Workshops for volunteer coaches are in January and February, and student competitions are from March to May. Registration and details are at the following website:
<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regions/2/naturebowl/>.

TWS-Western Section Meeting in Reno



Registration is open for the Western Section Annual Meeting **January 27-31, 2014**, at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, NV. Early bird registration rates are only available through **December 20, 2013**. The link to the online registration form is:
https://www.wildlifeprofessional.org/western/ac2014_reg.php.

Long-time Western Section member Ken Mayer will present a Keynote Address on Wednesday morning

titled "Leadership in Wildlife Management in the 21st Century." A Plenary Panel of wildlife researchers, academic professors, and published authors will discuss the conservation achievements and challenges of incorporating citizen science into wildlife biology. New breakfast roundtables will provide lightly structured professional discussion and networking opportunities.

There are also plenty of pre-conference and post-conference professional development opportunities to choose from, including:

- Greater Sage Grouse Symposium
- Golden Eagle Working Group
- Wildlife Track and Sign Workshop and Certification (either full-day or half-day)
- Wildlife Disease Investigation Practical Workshop
- Wilderness First Aid
- Student Activities at the Sagehen Creek Field Station in Truckee.

More information on events can be found at: http://www.tws-west.org/upcoming_events.php. More general information is at: http://www.tws-west.org/ac2014_conf.php.

Think about submitting some photos for the Tuesday Welcome Reception Photo Exhibition. Western Section is looking for all sorts of photos--wildlife, wildlifers, or TWS-WS over the years. Each person who submits a photo will be entered into a raffle drawing for an iPad. For information contact Natasha Dvorak, NDvorak@esaassoc.com.

New Student Chapter for SF Bay Area

2013 has been a banner year for the San Francisco Bay Area wildlife students. In addition to recently developing a student chapter at San Francisco State University, UC Berkeley has gathered a group of prospective TWS student chapter members, and even has a faculty advisor lined up. The SF Bay Area Chapter will attend a meeting at UC Berkeley on December 5th to give an orientation and to meet the students and advisor.

TWS National Announcements

TWS is inviting members to contact the EPA to strengthen protections for headwaters and wetlands. For more information and to send your comment, visit <https://www.votervoice.net/link/target/tws/MEQ8qgbRB.aspx>.

PAST EVENTS

2013 Burrowing Owl Workshop

Lily Douglas

Our Burrowing Owl Workshop was held on August 26th and 27th at the SRCSD Bufferlands, south of Sacramento. The workshop filled up quickly, indicating a lot of interest in this species of special concern. The first day included a field visit to view artificial burrows and an accommodating owl, a presentation on burrowing owl life history, and a discussion on the CDFW 2012 Staff Report. The second day was chock full of presentations on recent studies and a panel discussion on mitigation. Everyone left with brains and bellies full, with many sporting new Chapter t-shirts (still available at future events!). Thanks again to all the presenters and volunteers, and to the Bufferlands for being such gracious hosts!



Chico Mixer

Sandra Jacks

Despite the small turn-out, the Chico Mixer on September 5th was fun! The venue, VIP Ultra Lounge, did a great job at accommodating our needs in a swanky atmosphere. We sold some Chapter merchandise and met folks in the Chico area. It was great to hear some of the environmental issues occurring in their neck of the

woods. To help promote more attendance, we encourage our members in the northern part of our Chapter to get involved with us and spread the word. Mixers are such a great way to meet people working in your area.

Student-Professional Back-to-School Mixer

Randi Logsdon

On September 26, the Chapter held a student-professional mixer in Sacramento, located at Clark's Corner on Folsom Blvd. This was a convenient location for students at CSU Sacramento and professionals working nearby. There was a great turnout of students, and though there could have been a few more professionals, the students and members enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and pitchers of delicious beer. Students networked to hear about local job opportunities, and professionals networked with one another as well. It was one of the Chapter's less crowded, more intimate gatherings, which had the great benefit of students having long conversations with more professionals.

2013 Natural Resources Symposium

Sandra Jacks

The NRS held on November 6th at CSU Sacramento was great! The numerous attendees were taken from the Central Valley to the Sierra Nevada regions with research and information. The excellent speakers brought us topics from mitigation and conservation to turtles, frogs, high elevations, diseases, and vernal pools! A big thank you to our sponsors, Westervelt Ecological Services and WRA, Inc. for helping us provide wonderful refreshments; and Cardno Entrix for providing the printing necessary for the event. As always, a huge thank you to my sub-committee that helped make the symposium a success!

JOB and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Biological Science Technician, USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station. Join a research team studying the genetic regulation of growth and development of forest trees. Lab and field work. Vacancy announcement on www.usajobs.gov, or contact Andrew Groover, agroover@fs.fed.us, no later than **December 13**.

Regional Biologist, Ducks Unlimited, Rancho Cordova. Conserve, enhance, and restore wetlands and associated habitats in the Sacramento Valley, Intermountain West in Nevada, and southern Oregon. Position open until filled, but evaluation of candidates will begin **December 1**. For information and application, go to www.ducks.org/jobs or contact Debby Jones at djones@ducks.org.

The following positions were announced on the TWS-West job site at: <http://www.tws-west.org/jobs.php>, and may still be available if not filled:

Staff-level terrestrial ecologist, entry-level terrestrial biologist, and senior-level ecologist with North State Resources, in Sacramento, Redding or Chico

Biologist or environmental planner with Tehama Environmental Solutions in Red Bluff

For the latest information on seasonal openings with CDFW, visit <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/jobs/vacancies/seasonal.asp>.

Open Exam bulletin for **Environmental Scientist** (multiple State agencies) is at the following website:

<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. Currently posted are two Environmental Scientist positions with the CDFW Central Region office in Rancho Cordova, in the Timberland Conservation Program.

Check out The Wildlife Society's Wildlife Careers Online: <http://careers.wildlife.org>.

For local job announcements, check: <http://www.tws-west.org/sac-shasta/jobs.php>. If anyone has job or volunteer opportunities to post in our next newsletter, please contact the editor.

NOTICE

Wildlife Tours

Weekend guided tours are now being conducted at the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area in Gridley. Each walking tour through this premier birding spot highlights migratory waterfowl and other wetland wildlife. For more information, call (530) 846-7505, or email Lori.Dieter@wildlife.ca.gov. Reservations are not needed for groups of less than 12 people.

Swan tours in Yuba County are held on Saturdays from mid November to mid January, morning and afternoon. The privately owned rice fields and restored habitat toured contain one of the largest seasonal concentrations of tundra swans in the Central Valley as well as a variety of other bird species. For more information, visit www.dfg.ca.gov/regions/2/swantours.

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.

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 – Carlos Alvarado (carlos.alvarado@cardno.com)

Vice President – Lily Douglas (ldouglas14@gmail.com)

Secretary – Sandi Jacks (sandra.jacks@wildlife.ca.gov)

Treasurer – Sean Marquis (sean2377@gmail.com)

Chapter Representative to Western Section – Laura Patterson (laura.patterson@wildlife.ca.gov)

Newsletter Editor – Randi Logsdon (randilogsdon@gmail.com)

Membership Chair – Melinda Bradbury (melindabradbury@sbcglobal.net)

Acting Technology Chair – Erin Aquino (Erinaquino@gmail.com)

Professional Development Committee Chair – Angela Calderaro (angela.calderaro@wildlife.ca.gov)

Scholarship Chair – Tracy Walker (tracy.walker@aecom.com)

Representatives for UC Davis Student Chapter – Elise Zarri (eczarri@ucdavis.edu) and Janette Perez-Jimenez (jperezjimenez@ucdavis.edu)