



Falcon Flyer

Promoting the preservation of birds, wildlife, and their natural habitats.

Peregrine Audubon Society provides informative and educational public programs and participates actively as an advocate for environmental conservation.

Important Information

Meetings - Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Ukiah City Council Chambers - Ukiah Civic Center, 300 Seminary Ave., Ukiah, unless otherwise noted. From South State Street turn west on Seminary and go to the end into the parking lot. Refreshments available after the meetings. The public is always welcome.

Board meetings - Board meetings are open to the membership. You are always welcome and encouraged to participate.

Field Trips - Everyone is welcome! Details located in the calendar.

Field Trip Guidelines: These guidelines apply to all Peregrine Field Trips. Please take a moment to read them if you are new or use them to refresh your memory if you have birded with us before.

******The times listed are the departure times, not the assembly times. Please arrive early!****** Many of these trips are out of the area and require an hour or more of driving, so promptness is necessary. Due to insurance requirements, Peregrine Audubon leaders are not allowed to organize carpools. Participants are, however, encouraged to voluntarily share rides. Any carpool arrangements are private arrangements between the driver and the passengers. Drivers must carry adequate insurance coverage. Please be courteous and share gas expenses with the driver. Most trips are all day affairs but at times various people need to get back sooner. By arriving 10 minutes early, such necessary travel arrangements can be made.

To Bring: You will probably want to take a pack with lunch, water, hat and appropriate clothing - coats, rain gear, etc. - binoculars*, camera perhaps, notepad and field guides.

** Binoculars are important but loaner pairs may be available for newcomers. If you have one to loan, bring it along.*

CALENDAR

Meeting-Tuesday, January 15- Join us this evening as **Harry Lyons and his musical partner Rick McCann will talk (and sing) about Clear Lake and the restoration of Middle Creek**, one of the lake's major tributaries. Harry is a founding member of the Middle Creek Restoration Coalition. This group has sold the benefits of this Flood Damage Reduction/Ecosystem Restoration in a number of ways: as a required engineering effort to prevent damage to infrastructure and related liability; as an expansion of recreational opportunity; as a step in preserving an endangered species; as a sediment trap to reduce nutrient enrichment of Clear Lake; and as an expansion of critical habitat. Harry will describe the science of the working marsh as well as the politics of the effort to make it a reality. Harry has lived in Lake County for forty years. He is an Emeritus Professor of Biology/Ecology at Yuba College, and has a PhD in Oceanography from the Scripps Institution of the University of California. He is an engaging and entertaining speaker with a unique presentation style. This will be an evening you will not want to miss!

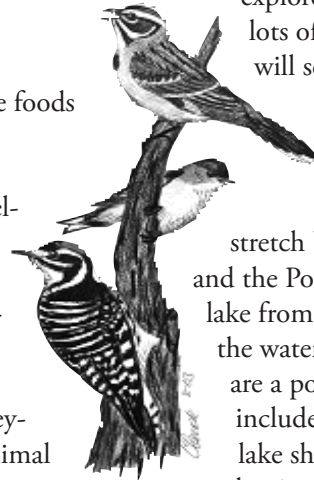
Field Trip- Saturday, January 19- We will be making a birding trip to the south coast of Mendocino County, focusing on the Point Arena and Manchester areas. This is an excellent area for raptors, including Ferruginous and Rough-legged Hawks. The Garcia River area is also the winter home for Tundra Swans and a variety of waterfowl. We will be car-pooling from the CVS parking lot along Orchard Avenue. It is a long drive, and we will be leaving at 7:30. Dress in layers and pack a lunch. This is pretty much a full-day trip so if you need to leave early please plan to drive your own vehicle.



Meeting- Tuesday, February 19- Marisela de Santa Anna and Kate Marianchild on Birds, Buds, and Bugs, a joint meeting with the California Native Plant Society. When local author Kate Marianchild was in Los Angeles for the California Native Plant Society Conservation Conference last February, she heard a talk by entomologist and wildlife ecologist Doug Tallamy that blew her socks off. Arriving home, she was not surprised that news of this amazing talk had already reached biologist Marisela de Santa Anna. Marisela and Kate have put their heads together to bring you Birds, Buds, and Bugs, a program sponsored by both Peregrine Audubon and CNPS. In preparation for this program, Kate and Marisela ask you to think about the following questions:

- What do most baby songbirds eat?
- Where do their parents find these foods?
- What happens if the parents can't find these foods nearby?

Come to Birds, Buds, and Bugs to watch an excellent video of Doug Tallamy's groundbreaking talk. Following the video a group of panelists will discuss the factors decimating insect populations and how we can make a difference. CNPS members will provide handouts on locally native plants that support caterpillars, native bees, honeybees, and other insects that support the entire animal food chain.



Field Trip- Saturday, February 23- Beginner's Birdwalk and Family Day at the Ukiah Wastewater Treatment Plant. We encourage participants of all ages and birding experience levels to come out for this leisurely walk. At the Ukiah Wastewater Treatment Plant, or UWWTP, you can probably see more species of birds in less time than anywhere else in the Ukiah valley. Its habitat range is outstanding: riparian areas adjacent to the Russian River, settling ponds, beautiful stands of mature valley oaks, blackberry thickets, and adjacent open grasslands. Expect to see lots of birds including an array of ducks, herons, egrets, and raptors. Meet at the UWWTP office area at 8:30. The walk around the oxidation ponds is about one mile, all on level ground.

Meeting- Tuesday, March 19- Join us this evening as **Dr. Lauren Esposito of the California Academy of Sciences talks about The Secret World of Arachnids.** Arachnids (scorpions, spiders, and their kin) are an enigmatic group of

animals: though recognized and feared by all, there are many aspects of their basic biology that remain a mystery. These unique creatures are found worldwide from the highest massifs to deserts to deep cenote caves 600 meters below sea level. Arachnids exhibit complex courtship rituals, and their bizarre reproductive strategies include traumatic insemination and autotomy (self-amputation) of reproductive organs. They produce materials stronger than steel, and some species may even hold the key to curing some forms of cancer. Nonetheless, there are still dozens of new species discovered each year and the natural history of these secretive animals is still in many ways unknown to us. We will enter the fascinating world of arachnids, the discoveries that have been made, and some of the mysteries that remain to be explored. There will even be specimens to examine; lots of weird and creepy stuff! Bring the kids and we will see you there.

Field Trip- Saturday, March 23- We will be birding the north end of **Lake Mendocino** this morning. We will be focusing on the stretch between the boat launch adjacent to the inlet, and the Pomo A day-use area. There are great views of the lake from this location, so we will be searching through the water birds for wintering ducks and grebes. Loons are a possibility here as well. Other target birds will include wintering song birds and raptors along the lake shore. Bald Eagle is a good possibility. We will be leaving the CVS parking lot at 8 and expect to arrive at the parking area above the north boat launch at 8:30.

Meeting- Tuesday, April 23- **PLEASE NOTE THIS IS THE 4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH** **Rebecca Rosen – Falconer and Founder of Authentic Abatement Falconry** is an ancient form of hunting that uses hawks, falcons, eagles, or owls to catch prey. Join Rebecca Rosen, a professional falconer, to hear how she uses falcons and other raptors to help vintners protect their crops from flocks of invasive birds. She will discuss raptor biology, describe her exciting job, and even provide tips on how YOU can help these iconic birds of prey. Rebecca will bring one or more of her falcons and provide a live demonstration in front of the Civic Center. School age children are welcome. The program will begin promptly at 7:00, so please arrive on time!

Peregrine Audubon's Annual Trip to Round Valley



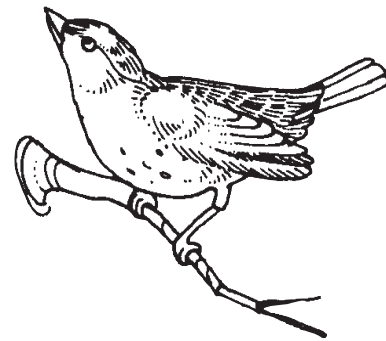
By Ryan Keiffer

On November 17th, a small but dedicated group of six Peregrine Audubon Society members went on the annual field trip to Covelo. Our first stop was along HWY 162 and Dos Rios to look for (successfully) AMERICAN DIPPER and RUFIOUS-CROWNED SPARROW. It was quite smoky from the Camp Fire, but we found the air quality to be better in Round Valley and with decent visibility. Thus we were able to use our spotting scopes to search the valley fields for many of our "Target Birds". We spent a good deal of time birding along Dobie Lane and Fairbanks Lane searching and finding notable birds such as: FERRUGINOUS HAWK, ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK, BALD EAGLE, LEWIS'S WOODPECKER, and HOUSE WREN. After a quick stop at the Covelo Wastewater Treatment Plant to look for waterfowl, we headed out to Black Butte Campgroup for a picnic lunch. It is then tradition to search the river area for another target species of the trip, the CANYON WREN. Happy to report we found two CANYON WRENS, two ROCK WRENS, and a photogenic RUFIOUS-CROWNED SPAR-

ROW. We headed back into Covelo to drive out Cemetery Lane and at the end of the road we had a nice look at a very fast PRAIRIE FALCON. A large flock of blackbirds yielded two TRICOLORED BLACKBIRDS mixed in as well.

Overall it was a great day with great company. We tallied a total of 76 species, 1091 individual birds, and 12 species of raptors (including TURKEY VULTURE). The only usual suspect we did not see on the day was our namesake, the PEREGRINE FALCON.

Participants included: Kent Leland, Keith Leland, Chuck Vaughn, Dave Bengston, Bob Keiffer, Ryan Keiffer



Peregrine Audubon needs your help!

Please support local Peregrine conservation and educational programs with your tax deductible donation. All money goes directly to Peregrine projects and none to administrative costs.

Please accept my contribution of \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make checks payable to Peregrine Audubon Society
PO Box 311, Ukiah, CA 95482

How would you like this donation to be acknowledged
in the newsletter? _____

PARDEE'S GOOD READ PICKS

Wings At My Window— By Ada Clapham Govan, 1940

I found this review on Amazon and paraphrase it here. This is a true story about Mrs. Govan, the author, whose health was wrecked by hardship and bereavement, caused by an accident which made her a housebound invalid. Her life is restored by attracting an amazing variety and number of birds to her yard. She lives next to an adjoining woodland which is threatened by modern development. Due to her efforts and generosity, the area is saved as a bird sanctuary. The story of her experience and of what birds meant to her opens a door to courage and happiness to others.

REGIONAL BIRD FESTIVALS



Morro Bay Winter Bird Festival in Morro Bay, January 18-21

The 2019 Festival will have over 130 events including Nature Track events-- events include field trips, workshops, presentations and Special Events. All-day and half-day tours take participants to a wide variety of habitats, including deep water pelagic, oak woodland and riparian, wetland and estuary, and the unique grassland habitat of the Carrizo Plain. Workshops cover a vast array of topics ranging from beginner birding classes to gull identification and a new workshop on bats. Volunteers have organized a packed Saturday "Family Day", which is open to the public and does not require pre-registration. A variety of vendors will be present with nature-related artwork, books, field equipment and attire, and local merchant wares. A number of the events are geared toward birders who are also photographers. Birders of all levels are welcome, and the schedule identifies programs especially appropriate for beginners or children, as well as programs that are wheelchair accessible. Check out our website at <https://morrobaybirdfestival.org/>

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Snow Goose Festival of the Pacific Flyway in Chico, January 23-27

This action-packed 5-day event celebrates the remarkable journey of millions of waterfowl and raptors along the Pacific Flyway that call the Northern Sacramento Valley their home during the winter months.

Choose from over 70 field trips and workshops that are sure to appeal to a wide variety of interests. Free nature activities

are offered for youth as well as armchair adventures for all. View impressive art at our Wildlife Art Exhibit at our new venue, MONCA (Museum of Northern California Art). Registration begins in early December (or sooner!), so we highly recommend getting on our email list in order to be notified of registration opening as soon as possible! Fly over to our website for more information! <http://snowgoosefestival.org/>

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Olympic BirdFest 2019

Come Bird With Us
Sequim, Washington, April 12-14, 2019
Grab your binoculars and join the 16th annual Olympic BirdFest 2019 celebration at the Dungeness River Audubon Center, April 12-14, 2019.

The stage is set...quiet bays and estuaries, sandy beaches, a five-mile-long sandspit, and a protected island bird sanctuary on the Strait of Juan de Fuca; wetlands, tide pools, rainforests, and lush river valleys. The players are ready ...Marbled Murrelets, Rhinoceros Auklets, Harlequin Ducks, Black Oystercatchers, Peregrine Falcons, Barred and Pygmy Owls will be sporting their finest spring plumage for this celebration. Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tour, and a gala banquet. Our featured speaker this year,

John Marzluff, is a professor of wildlife science at the University of Washington and a noted author. Come bird with us and experience with others the spectacular landscapes of the Olympic Peninsula ...you just might go home with a new bird for your life list!

Check out the offerings by going online (www.olympicbirdfest.org). Precede your BirdFest weekend with a three-day, two night birding cruise of the spectacular San Juan Islands on April 9-11, 2019. Visit San Juan and Sucia Islands, and more. Stay at the historic Roche Harbor Resort. Extend your Birdfest weekend with the Neah Bay post-trip, April 14-16, 2019: two and one-half days exploring northwest coastal Washington, a region rarely seen by birders.

Contact us by phone, at 360-681-4076 or E-mail us at info@olympicbirdfest.org

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Falcon Flier



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www.peregrineaudubon.org

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Peregrine Audubon Society *Local Membership Only*

- Yes, I'd like to join the **Peregrine Audubon Society - \$20**
- Check box if you do not wish to receive the *Falcon Flier*.
National Audubon Society members already receive a complementary newsletter.

Please send \$20 for membership payable to:

Peregrine Audubon Society
P.O. Box 311
Ukiah, CA 95482

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(We will not share your email with anyone)

Chapter C2ZC540Z