



**EXTRA  
ISSUE**

# Madrone LEAVES

Madrone Audubon Society, Inc., Post Office Box 1911, Santa Rosa, California 95402

2025 Mid-Summer Issue



## *A Note from the Madrone President*



### HELLO MADRONE!

THERE IS so much enthusiasm and excitement within and around the organization right now, it is a great time to be involved. Madrone members, community members, other non-profits are reaching out asking how they can help.

We are encouraged, and we know there is a lot of work to do. We hope you catch some of this fever and look at ways you can join us.

We want to hear from you.

What do you consider to be Madrone's super powers?  
Where should Madrone be focusing its efforts?  
What do you want Madrone to be?

*Carolyn Johnson*



Young Great Horned Owl • Courtesy of Don Jackson



Osprey Face-off

Courtesy of Don Jackson



Peregrine Falcons

Courtesy of Don Jackson





## Meet the New Leadership of Madrone

At the April Members' Meeting, an election of board officers was held. As directed in the Madrone bylaws, new officer nominees were presented to the membership for vote. Five officers were nominated from the floor and were elected unanimously by the membership.

### MADRONE BOARD OFFICERS

*(From left to right)*

John Lundblad

Marie Witt

CJ Johnson

Claudia Norby

Sandra Settle



*Banded Male Peregrine Falcon • Courtesy of Don Jackson*



#### **Carolyn (CJ) Johnson** – President

Carolyn has 25 years of experience in nonprofit board service and governance. She spent 15 yrs on the board of Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation – 3 years as Board Chair, and 10 years on Point Blue Conservation Science's board, also 3 years as Chair. In 1999, she and a small group developed the Learning Laguna Environmental Education program and continues to be involved today. From SSU, she earned an interdisciplinary master's degree focused on wetland biology and land use policy. She has been a CBC participant since 1985, and territory leader for ~30 years. CJ describes herself as a collaborative and inclusive leader.

#### **John Lundblad** – Vice-President

John's experience in bird watching started in 1990 when he assisted his brother banding songbirds in the Sierra Nevada. He was invited to participate in the bird censusing project at McCord Ranch. He is currently co-leader of the Madrone Christmas Bird Count. John has been a middle school teacher in Santa Rosa for 19 years, managing 120-150 students every day, developing curriculum to address science learning and teaching standards. He also teaches art and MAKER. Prior to teaching, John worked at Clos du Bois Winery as an enologist. He loves to backpack, bicycle, flyfish, and make wine.

#### **Claudia Norby** – Treasurer

Claudia has been birding since the 90's and yet still considers herself an enthusiastic but intermediate birder. She says she has benefitted and learned much from being a Madrone member, particularly from the field trips. Claudia has previous experience as a nonprofit board member and has had budget oversight experience as an attorney. She is glad to be serving as Madrone's Treasurer.

#### **Sandra Settle** – Recording Secretary

Sandra is an enthusiastic birder and advocate for wildlife conservation and is excited about her new role on the Madrone chapter's board. Sandra has lived in Santa Rosa for more than 35 years, and has been active in the birding community with her late husband, Bill Payne. Along with love of birds, she brings writing and organizational skills from a local teaching career.

#### **Marie Witt** – Correspondence Secretary

Marie is thankful to be serving on Madrone's board. She was introduced to birding by her husband. Since then, she has been an active participant for the last 14 years on the Christmas Bird Count. She brings to the position 13 years of Administrative Assistant experience including knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel.



#### **Stacy K. Li** (not pictured) – Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Stacy was Co-coordinator and co-compiler of the Madrone Audubon Christmas Bird Count with Peter Leveque for ten years. He also served as Correspondence Secretary for Madrone. His professional career was in two parts: as consulting aquatic biologist from 1980 to 2001, and a fish ecologist and water rights specialist for NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service dealing with Endangered Species issues. He was the first and only enforcement biologist in the agency's history. Domestically, he has been married to Marguerite since 1970, and has a son and a daughter that have each provided a grandson and a granddaughter.



## The new officers invite you to join in revitalizing Madrone.

There are many opportunities for engagement! Some committees involve outdoor activities; others could use folks who want to help from their desks. Do you have time to lead regular bird walks? Or would you like to lead walks once or twice a year? Are you a policy wonk who keeps your ear to the ground? Then join the Conservation Committee. Do you want to contribute to *Leaves* regularly or only occasionally? Do you have social media skills? You don't know what you can do but want to be involved? Get in touch! Find what works for you and catch the enthusiasm. [Madroneaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:Madroneaudubon@gmail.com)

*Here are specific ways you can get involved. (These are not the only opportunities, but are the most pressing right now).*

- **Join the Conservation Committee.** Help us keep up on issues enhancing or threatening the environment. Plan ways Madrone can make Sonoma County more wildlife friendly. Collaborate with other organizations on conservation projects.
- **Join the Membership Committee** where we will grow the membership and show appreciation for our members. Help organize picnics and other fun gatherings.
- **Lead bird walks** for beginners, for experienced, for youth. Do it regularly or once a year.
- **Help make our Members' Meeting engaging and fun.** Do you have experiences or expertise you can share at our Members' Meetings?
- **Get involved with the great tradition of the *Leaves* newsletter.** Do you have an interesting bird story to tell? Are you a photographer? Do you have publication layout experience?
- **Contribute to *Leaves*, the website or other social media.**



Acorn Woodpecker Acorn Tree  
Courtesy of Don Jackson

## Please tell us what you're thinking.

What are Madrone's greatest strengths?  
What should Madrone be focusing on?  
What activities have you enjoyed most?  
Do you read *Leaves* newsletter?  
What would you like to see included in *Leaves*?  
Do you have ideas on how to improve the Members' meetings?  
What would you like to learn about at these presentations?  
How would you like to contribute to the success of our chapter?

[Madroneaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:Madroneaudubon@gmail.com)

## A Sample of What's Coming Up

### September

Thursday 11th – 8:30-10:30am

**Crane Creek Regional Park**

Rohnert Park Parking Pass Required

**Leader:** Janet Bosshard - 707-480-3432

Monday 15th – 6:00pm

**Members' Meeting and Presentation by Dr. Bob Rubin**  
*"Flying Carpets of Ebony Silk"*

Dr. Rubin is the founder and director of the Pacific Manta Research Group, conducting field research, assessment and conservation of oceanic manta rays in the Subtropical Pacific. His recent work helped establish the Revillagigedo Archipelago of Mexico as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

United Methodist Church, Fellowship Room  
1551 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa

Saturday 20th – 8:30-10:30am

**Spring Lake Regional Park – Santa Rosa**

Channel Drive & Violetti Road Entrance

**Leader:** Linda Fraley - 559-779-5211

Sunday 21st – 6:00pm - 8:00pm

**Field Trip: Swift migration at Rio Lindo Adventist Academy,**  
Healdsburg

**Leader:** Peter Leveque

Come watch the annual spectacle of thousands of tiny swifts dropping into the chimney, their night roost, as part of their migration route to southern Mexico.

### October

Saturday 11th

**Field Trip: Jenner Headlands Hawk Watch with Dave Barry and Peter Leveque.**

A special outing on Wildlands Conservancy property to observe the spectacular Fall hawk migration along our piece of the Pacific Flyway. Watch our website or Facebook page for details.

Saturday 11th

**Junior Audubon: bird box building (Ages 6 -15)**

Spring Lake, Laguna Entrance

Monday 20th – 6:00pm

**Members' Meeting and Presentation by Bird Rescue Center**  
*"Owls and Halloween"*

United Methodist Church, Fellowship Room  
1551 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa

### November

Wednesday 19th – 6:00pm

**Members' Meeting: A Madrone/RROS collaboration with a presentation by author, Paul Bannick on Woodpeckers**

United Methodist Church, Fellowship Room  
1551 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa



## Madrone Audubon Society

Post Office Box 1911  
Santa Rosa, California 95402

### 2025 Extra Mid-Summer Issue

**TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL  
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY  
CALENDAR ENCLOSED**



## MADRONE LEAVES



Madrone Audubon Society meets on the third Monday of each month, except in June, July, August, and December. Meetings start at 6:00 PM, Zoom or in-person at First United Methodist Church, 1551 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa. All membership meetings and walks are open to the public. Information: e-mail - [madroneaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:madroneaudubon@gmail.com).

**President:** Carolyn Johnson ..... [madroneaudubon@gmail.com](mailto:madroneaudubon@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** John Lundblad

**Treasurer:** Claudia Norby

**Recording Secretary:** Sandra Settle

**Correspondence Secretary:** Marie Witt

**Assistant Secretary/Treasurer:** Stacy K. Li

**Conservation:** Diane Hichwa ..... [dhichwa@earthlink.net](mailto:dhichwa@earthlink.net) – 707-785-1922

**Programs:** Mookie Fudemberg ..... [mookiefud@gmail.com](mailto:mookiefud@gmail.com)

**Bird Walks – Thursday:** Janet Bosshard ..... 707-526-5883

**Bird Walks – Saturday:** Linda Farley (and various). .... 707-241-5548

**Observations:** Dan Nelson ..... [birdsurf64@sbcglobal.net](mailto:birdsurf64@sbcglobal.net) – 707-479-2918

**BBA:** ..... Madrone Board, [madroneaudubon@gmail.org](mailto:madroneaudubon@gmail.org)

### Christmas Bird Count:

Chris Grabill ..... [cgrabill@gmail.com](mailto:cgrabill@gmail.com) – 707-495-7340

John Lundblad ..... [jlundblad@srcs.k12.ca.us](mailto:jlundblad@srcs.k12.ca.us) – 707-484-8638

**Bird Rescue Center** ..... 707-523-BIRD

**Native Songbird Care & Conservation** ..... 707-484-6502

**Northern California Rare Bird Alert** ..... 415-681-7422

**National Audubon Society:** 225 Varick Street, NY, NY 10014. .... 212-979-3000

## Madrone Audubon belongs to all of us



The programs, nature walks, and conservation activities happen because of your participation. The new officers and Madrone board cannot make our Audubon chapter a success by themselves. Yes, we need you to get involved.

Join, or rejoin, this wonderful community of bird- and nature-appreciators and community activists who enhance and protect our local robust natural environment.

## Planning the Future

Recently a dozen of us gathered to talk about bringing vitality to Madrone. We were abuzz with enthusiasm and creativity. Ideas flowed and we want to share them here.

**Conservation** is at the heart of Madrone's work. We can expand our work while collaborating with other organizations. We can **grow our membership** through engaging and fun activities. Our **Leaves** newsletter should be inspiring and educational. **The Members' meetings** should represent what the members want. We want the Madrone Community to have FUN doing all the things we do together.