



# Madrone LEAVES

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

VOLUME 50 October/November 2016 Number 2

## A Life Graced by Birds

by Diane Hichwa

Betty Burrige was a long-time member of Madrone Audubon Society who left a very big impression on the organization and all who knew her. Betty died March 24, 2016 in Santa Rosa, and over her 84 years, she worked to improve the world around her.

Betty grew up in The City but spent childhood vacations on Northern California's fishing rivers and at her aunt's beach cottage. These early experiences set the tone for her lifelong involvement with

the natural world, be it observing, studying, protecting or exploring.

Deyea Harper, a long time personal friend and cohort, notes some Audubon highlights: "Betty Burrige made a valuable contribution to National Audubon and Madrone Audubon when she agreed to take over the compilation of the annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) from Martha Bentley. When I assisted her on the compilation, she impressed me with her attention to detail and her skill in organizing data.



Betty birdwatching in the desert  
Provided by Susie Cummings

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### GENERAL MEETING

First United Methodist Church • 1551 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa

Monday, October 17, 7:00 PM

#### "Mountain Lions – New Research in Sonoma County"

The Audubon Canyon Ranch (ACR) Mountain Lion Project is a community-based research and education project in the Mayacamas Mountains of Sonoma and Napa Counties that will increase scientific and public understanding of mountain lions, identify priority habitat areas for conservation, and increase appreciation for these important top predators. By expanding our knowledge of mountain lion behavior, population size, feeding habits, home range, and movements, we can contribute to their conservation and the protection of the habitat critical for their survival while minimizing conflict with humans.

ACR's principal investigator on the Project is Dr. Quinton Martins, a leading expert on large mountain cats. Together with a team of ACR staff and advisors, Dr. Martins is

studying the movement of mountain lions fitted with GPS collars within a study area that encompasses approximately 1,000 square miles, primarily in the Mayacamas Mountains (areas east of Highway 101 and west of 29) in Sonoma and Napa Counties. ACR's project will lead to a better understanding of mountain lion ecology, connectivity in this fragmented landscape, and identification of priority areas for conservation. ACR is one of only four organizations in California to hold a capture and collaring permit issued by CDFW.



Dr. Martins with young learners  
Courtesy of ACR

Monday, November 21, 7:00 PM

#### "A Year in the Life of North American Owls"

In his new book "Owl: A Year in the Lives of North American Owls," award-winning photographer Paul Bannick uses his intimate yet dramatic images to follow North American owls through the course of one year and in their distinct habitats. Readers follow along at the nest as each stage in an owl's life is chronicled: courtship, mating, and nesting in spring; fledging and feeding of young in summer; dispersal and gaining independence in fall; and, finally, winter's migrations and competitions for food. For owls, every day brings a new challenge to survive, and this book shows readers how owls use the unique resources available to them in their habitat to face those challenges. While the Northern Pygmy-Owl, Great



Courtesy of Paul Bannick

Gray Owl, Burrowing Owl and Snowy Owl are discussed most prominently, all 19 species found in Canada and the United States are depicted generously in photos and text throughout the book.

"For anyone who appreciates wild things and wild places, each of Paul Bannick's stunning photographs is worth ten thousand words."

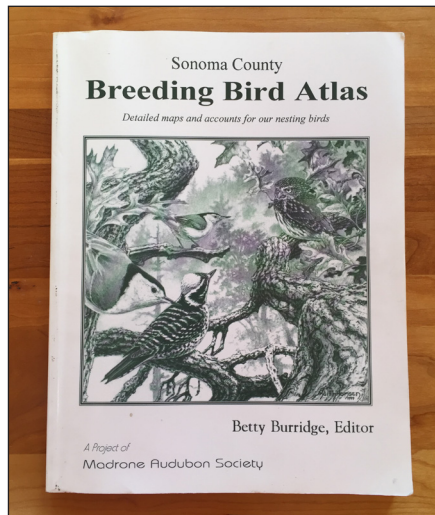
– Ted Williams, Audubon



### LIFE GRACED BY BIRDS

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This was further acknowledged when she edited the Breeding Bird Atlas (BBA), which was another valuable contribution she made to Madrone Audubon and to the



Madrone's first BBA

bird life she loved. Her distinct way with words also appeared in the many articles she wrote for Madrone Leaves over the years. I rarely questioned her memory of past records or events. She was a treasured friend."

Betty once recalled that it was around 1978 when she first helped Martha Bentley do the CBC count on hands and knees with those large sheets of butcher paper on which the data were tabulated (before computers!), and a few years later found herself and Deyea Harper with the job for the next 17 years, "while Martha looked on approvingly." CBC data have been collected nationally for over 100 years and provide a long-term database to compare numbers and ranges of birds. (Madrone is celebrating its 50th anniversary year, and we will be hosting the 50th Western Sonoma County CBC on January 1, 2017.)

Dear Members – if you prefer to receive *Leaves* in PDF format, just email your request to: **info@madroneaudubon.org**

From 1986-1991 Betty was censusing blocks around Sonoma County and coordinating the FIRST of Madrone's BBA efforts. She offered four more years of her life to complete the editing and publishing in 1995. Betty knew full well its importance to protecting Sonoma County's environment for the birds. When the second round of atlasing began in 2010, Betty sat in as a consultant and advisor.

And she was willing to involve and encourage others in what we now refer to as "citizen science." The CBC and the BBA were citizen science in action. In 2007-8 Betty drove up to Sea Ranch to help the Stewardship Task Force in their first efforts to monitor seabirds and the effects of new fireworks on the nesting. Her encouragement of others in citizen science will continue on through Madrone's annual Burrige Award.

Betty held a wealth of knowledge on conservation issues. She and I talked—and wrote letters—on how to protect the Rail Ponds at Bodega Bay from fresh water draw-down, how to protect the egret colony above the harbor, to complete applications for Important Bird Area status for Bodega Harbor and several Sonoma County sites, how to counter lead shot in our area, and protect Laguna biodiversity and the Mayacamas Range — topics important all over the county.

She enjoyed our area from the Sonoma Coast to the Mayacamas Mountains. She understood full well the importance of habitat connectivity. One of the things she so valued in the Mayacamas Sanctuary and the Modini properties of Audubon Canyon Ranch was that they presented very large protected and connected landscapes for wild birds and wildlife. They are the core properties for additional Open Space lands protected nearby. The Modinis and the legacy they could leave for birds and wildlife were important to Betty, and she helped ensure that protection with her own legacy gifts.

Chris Smith aptly described Betty in the Press Democrat as a "bird conservation champion... who advocated for wildlife in general and for birds in particular."

### Phenology Project at Paula Lane Nature Preserve

by Susan Kirks

Thanks to a positive response from our members, the Phenology Project is underway in West Petaluma. In our Dec 2015/Jan 2016 issue of Leaves, we reached out for volunteers for this climate change impact research project. We now have 6 volunteers, including Judy Wagner, Deidre Harrison, Suzanne Reta, Carol Harrison, Rae Lynn Thomas and Susan Kirks, with a new volunteer planned for training soon. We have openings for 2 additional volunteers if the wild spirit moves you after reading this update. (Please contact me if so: susankirks@sbcglobal.net, 707-241-5548).



Red-shouldered Hawk  
Courtesy of Deidre Harrison

The National Phenology Network (USA NPN – see <https://www.usanpn.org/>) defines phenology as "seasonal changes in plants and animals from year to year, for example flowering, emergence of insects, migration of birds." Changes in phenological events such as flowering and bird migrations are among the most sensitive biological responses to climate change. Worldwide, many spring events are occurring earlier, and fall events are happening later than in the past. Not all species and regions are changing at the same rate, and ecological mismatches occur, e.g. pollinators not present at flowering, food resources not available for songbird nestlings.

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## PHENOLOGY PROJECT

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The USA National Phenology Network (USA NPN) brings together citizen scientists, government agencies, non-profit groups, educators and students of all ages to monitor the impacts of climate change on plants and animals in the United States. Over 4,000 observers across the country contribute to USA NPN's online database, *Nature's Notebook*, year round. USA NPN provides standardized protocols and online education and training tools to their observer network. Our Madrone Audubon sponsored project is part of Audubon California's statewide effort for Audubon Chapters to design and implement relevant projects in several areas of California.

volunteers. Volunteers visit the Paula Lane Nature Preserve once a month, long term. About an hour and a half of time is devoted to observing in 4 different locations, listening for and observing for species on our Phenology list, then recording data to be entered via computer into the national *Nature's Notebook*, so our individual data accrues as does our cumulative observation picture.

The National Phenology Project has a long list of species from which to select for observation. Based on many years of documented mammal and avian species observations, as well as knowledge of flora and fauna on the grassland habitat property, the Madrone Audubon project is observing for: 8 avian species, including Acorn Woodpecker, Violet-green Swallow, Anna's

Observers schedule the day and time of month for Phenology observations and function independently. We share information with each other. An example is a pair of nesting adult Acorn Woodpeckers observed in one area by Carol Harrison, which was shared with all of us. A day or so later, I observed an adult Acorn Woodpecker for the first time in an area close to Carol's observed location. Suzanne Reta also documented a pair of Hooded Orioles in breeding plumage with potential nest location, giving us joy, even though this bird is not among our selected species for observation. Sometimes, we don't see any of our avian species, but being on this property, in quiet repose, listening, observing, can add a sense of reverence for one's day. Deidre Harrison shared some of her moments through photos with this article.

The local Petaluma newspaper, Argus Courier, featured a front page article about our Phenology Project in April, to inform the South Sonoma County community about the Nature Preserve and research project sponsored by Madrone Audubon Society. Rae Lynn Thomas graciously shared a few hours of her time for the interview and photos for the article.

In conjunction with the book signing by Jane Alexander at Copperfield's in Petaluma on October 20th (see *Wild Things, Wild Places* Author Coming to Sonoma County on page 4), we'll host guided walks at the Nature Preserve that day at 4:30 and 5 PM. We'd love for our members to attend the book event and also appreciate your continued support of our climate change impact research project .... so hope to see you there!



Western Scrub Jay

Courtesy of Deidre Harrison

The Paula Lane Nature Preserve, location of our observations, is an 11-acre protected open space property in a rural area about a mile west of downtown Petaluma. This property represents an over 100-year-old active American Badger habitat, and the area has over 100 documented avian species. Thanks to volunteer Judy Wagner, the Paula Lane Wildlife Inventory List, compiled by nonprofit Paula Lane Action Network, has been re-ordered and streamlined, as a reference for our Phenology

Hummingbird, Rufous Hummingbird, Calliope Hummingbird, Mourning Dove, Dark-eyed Junco and Cedar Waxwing. We're also observing for 1 mammal, Mule Deer. American Badger, not currently in the National database, is being proposed for inclusion by us in their annual review process in October 2016. For vegetation, we're observing 4 plants, Hummingbird Sage, Miner's Lettuce, Salmonberry and California Wild Rose.

### Are you a National Audubon member?

Please consider joining our local chapter, Madrone Audubon.

(see membership form, back page)



## Wild Things, Wild Places Author Coming to Sonoma County

by Susan Kirks

Please join us at Copperfield's Books, 140 Kentucky St. in Petaluma, on Thursday, Oct. 20th, at 7 PM. Academy Award nominee, Tony and Emmy winning actress, and author Jane Alexander will talk about and sign her latest book, *Wild Things, Wild Places*. The book, to be released in late September, details Jane's global travels and encounters with scientists and activists in the world of preservation of the wild, including a focus on climate change impacts and human incursion. Copperfield's will donate 10% of proceeds from book sales to our Madrone Audubon Conservation and Education Projects. Advance book purchases are requested by Copperfield's to secure a seat at the event. Please visit Copperfield's web site (<http://www.copperfieldsbooks.com/event-listings>) or a Copperfield's store for more information.

Jane Alexander serves on the Board of Directors of the National Audubon Society. We appreciate her dedication and service, and surely look forward to meeting her. That day, Oct. 20th, at 4:30 and 5:00 PM, a guided walk will also be offered at the Paula Lane Nature Preserve, site of Madrone's sponsored Phenology Conservation Project. Visitors will meet at the corner of Paula Lane and Sunset Drive in West Petaluma (1.4 miles west of downtown) and then perhaps enjoy a light meal in downtown Petaluma before the Copperfield's event. For info on the walks and to reserve a space, please call Madrone Audubon President Susan Kirks at 707-241-5548 or email Susan at [susankirks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susankirks@sbcglobal.net).

Thank you, Copperfield's and author Jane Alexander! And to all wild animals in wild places, endeavoring to survive in the face of human encroachment, climate change impacts, and many other challenges, we share our support.

## Support our Wonderful Parks

by Ted Eliot

One of the countless blessings we and our visitors have in Sonoma County are our wonderful County Parks and trails. From the Pacific to the Mayacamas and from the Bay to the redwoods, there are 56 parks and trails on more than 12,000 acres. Their beauty nourishes the souls and their recreational possibilities the bodies of, yes, hundreds of thousands of people every year. Moreover, they protect clean water sources and habitat for wildlife.

In recent years the number of visitors has been steadily increasing, and the Parks' revenue has not been keeping pace. There is a need for funds to catch up with a lot of deferred maintenance. Additional funds are also needed to improve the parks and trails. And the Parks need new funding in order to open new parks and trails, including in areas where the County, through the Open Space District, already owns the properties.

With all of this in mind, the County Board of Supervisors has unanimously voted to put Measure J on the November ballot. Depending on economic conditions, this Measure will raise over \$9 million annually for 10 years. These funds will be strictly for the Parks. The Measure imposes a 1/2-cent sales tax on purchases made in the County's unincorporated areas, where the parks are. This tax will bring the County Sales tax up to the same level as most city sales taxes in the County. And as the tax is applied only to purchases in the unincorporated areas, only registered voters in those areas will vote on it in November.

I am a longtime member of Madrone Audubon and believe that this Measure is a no-brainer for my fellow members. I joined the campaign committee to help win the required 2/3rds vote. That's a high hurdle which is taking a lot of work to achieve. Its passage will be a huge benefit for the citizens of and visitors to the

County, as well as for the County's natural resources. The measure's website is <http://www.yesforsonomacountyparks.org>. *Note: The Madrone Audubon Board has endorsed Measure J.*

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## Goodbye to a Madrone Friend

by Elmarie Hutchinson

Phil Persons died peacefully at home on July 15, 2016. Phil moved from Santa Barbara County to Sonoma County in 2007. In his 9 years here he monitored nest boxes for cavity-nesting birds whose populations are declining because of loss of natural nesting habitat. He enjoyed showing children eggs and chicks at his nest box sites at Salmon Creek School, Bodega Bay School, and Singing Frogs Farm, and discussing with them why caring for wildlife is important. He helped with seabird monitoring and hosted a Madrone CBC team every year at his home on Coleman Valley Road. Phil will be missed by Madrone members and others brightened by his love of birds and wildlife.



*Western Bluebird*  
Courtesy of National Audubon Society



All walks and membership meetings are open to the public. Bird walks are recreational and educational in purpose, and all levels of expertise are welcome. Bring field equipment and wear comfortable shoes and layered clothing for variable weather conditions. Please carpool whenever possible. Forecasted heavy rain cancels. There is no charge for activities unless otherwise specified, but some parks have day-use fees.

## October 2016 calendar

**CONSERVATION COMMITTEE** exchanges information by phone and email as soon as possible when an issue surfaces. Please contact Diane Hichwa at 785-1922 or dhichwa@earthlink.net.

*Saturday, October 1, 8:00 AM to Noon*

**RAGLE RANCH REGIONAL PARK.** Bird Walk, on Ragle Ranch Road, in Sebastopol. Join us to look for fall migrants, as well as a wide variety of our familiar county birds. Meet in the parking area near the dog park and Peace Garden (from entry kiosk, the road slowly veers left - continue to the parking lot). Parking fee (\$7) for non-permit holders. We will be walking the Blackberry Trail, about 1.5 miles long. Leader: Gordon Beebe, 583-3115.

*Wednesday, October 5, 7:00 PM*

**BOARD MEETING.** Sonoma County Environmental Center, 55A Ridgway Avenue, Santa Rosa. For agenda information, contact Susan Kirks at susankirks@sbcglobal.net.

*Saturday, October 15, 8:00 AM to Noon*

**SPRING LAKE REGIONAL PARK.** Bird Walk. Parking fee (\$7) for non-permit holders. From Summerfield Road in Santa Rosa, go east on Hoen Ave, turn left on Newanga Ave, turn right inside the park entrance gate, and meet in the parking lot near the restrooms at the top of the hill. We will walk around the lake and check all of the birdy locations, 2.3 miles round-trip. Leader: Gordon Beebe, 583-3115.

*Wednesday, October 19, 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM*

**BODEGA BAY.** Bird Walk at Bodega Bay Harbor and environs. To meet the group, drive north on Highway 1 in the town of Bodega Bay. On the edge of town, turn left at East Shore Road (the Bodega Head turnoff), then turn right at the stop sign, and continue 0.3 miles to the unpaved parking lot on the right. The group will search the harbor and adjacent seas and woodlands for birds, including Doran County Park. Weather permitting, the group will eat a picnic lunch

at the Westside County Park on the west side of the harbor. A Sonoma County park permit or \$7 entrance fee is required for both Westside and Doran County Parks. Leader: Tom McCuller, t.sisyphus@comcast.net, 707-546-1812.

*Monday, October 17, 7:00 PM*

**GENERAL MEETING.** First United Methodist Church, 1551 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa. "Mountain Lions – New Research in Sonoma County." This is a free event and all are welcome.

*Thursday, October 20, 7:00 PM*

**AUTHOR TALK & BOOK SIGNING -**

Wild Things, Wild Places.

Copperfield's Books, Petaluma, 170 Kentucky Street.

National Audubon Society Board member and acclaimed actress and author Jane Alexander talks about and signs books at this Petaluma event 10% of evening proceeds will be donated to Madrone Audubon Conservation and Education Projects. See *Wild Things, Wild Places* Author Coming to Sonoma County on page 4 for event details. Enjoy a WALK and learn more about Madrone's Phenology Conservation Project at the Paula Lane Nature Preserve on Oct. 20th before the evening event. Walks start at 4:30 PM and again at 5:00 PM. Meet at the corner of Paula Lane and Sunset Drive, 1.4 miles from downtown Petaluma. Contact Madrone President Susan Kirks for more information or to reserve a space, susankirks@sbcglobal.net, 707-241-5548.

*Saturday, October 29, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM*

**BODEGA BAY.** Bird Walk. We will explore one of Sonoma County's richest bird areas, looking for migrant shorebirds, waterfowl, and landbirds. From the center of the town of Bodega Bay, drive north on Highway 1. Turn left at East Shore Road (the Bodega Head turnoff), then right at the stop sign, and continue 0.3 mile to the large, dirt parking lot on the right. Bring lunch. Leader: Gordon Beebe, 583-3115.



All walks and membership meetings are open to the public. Bird walks are recreational and educational in purpose, and all levels of expertise are welcome. Bring field equipment and wear comfortable shoes and layered clothing for variable weather conditions. Please carpool whenever possible. Forecasted heavy rain cancels. There is no charge for activities unless otherwise specified, but some parks have day-use fees.

## November 2016 calendar

*Wednesday, November 2, 7:00 PM*

**BOARD MEETING.** Sonoma County Environmental Center, 55A Ridgway Avenue, Santa Rosa. For agenda information, contact Susan Kirks at [susankirks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susankirks@sbcglobal.net).

*Saturday, November 5, 8:00 AM to Noon*

**DELTA POND AND ADJACENT WETLAND PRESERVE.** A very “birdy” walk, in a wonderful place. Delta Pond is not normally open to the public. We are grateful to Denise Cadman, Natural Resources Specialist for the City of Santa Rosa, who arranges entry to this property in the Laguna de Santa Rosa. Meet on Willowside Road at the bridge over Santa Rosa Creek, mid-way between Hall Road and Guerneville Road. Park off the pavement. We will walk west along the creek trail to Delta Pond, about 1 mile. Add another mile for the walk around the pond. Leader: Gordon Beebe, 583-3115.

*Wednesday, November 16, 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM*

**BODEGA BAY.** Bird Walk at Bodega Bay Harbor and environs. To meet the group, drive north on Highway 1 in the town of Bodega Bay. On the edge of town, turn left at East Shore Road (the Bodega Head turnoff), then turn right at the stop sign, and continue 0.3 miles to the unpaved parking lot on the right. The group will search the harbor and adjacent seas and woodlands for birds, including Doran County Park. Weather permitting, the group will eat a picnic lunch at

the Westside County Park on the west side of the harbor. A Sonoma County park permit or \$7 entrance fee is required for both Westside and Doran County Parks. Leader: Tom McCuller, [t.sisyphus@comcast.net](mailto:t.sisyphus@comcast.net), 707-546-1812.

*Saturday, November 19, 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM*

**TOLAY REGIONAL PARK.** Bird Walk. Important! We will meet to carpool at the following location: From Petaluma, take Lakeville Highway towards Highway 37. Continue about one mile past the junction with Stage Gulch Road. Immediately after Papa’s Taverna on the right, there is an unmarked parking lot with boats in it (if you pass Cannon Lane, you have gone too far). There is a small fee to leave your car here. Tolay Lake requires at least three participants to be permit holders. NOTE: these are in addition to the Regional Parks permit. Each permit holder can take three passengers into the park. Permits are now easy to obtain online by watching an orientation and completing a brief quiz at the link below (click on the Permit Program tab on their site). Tolay Lake frequently has shrikes, as well as Golden Eagles, falcons and other raptors. Leaders: Gordon Beebe, 583-3115, and Larry Broderick, 791-0335

*Monday, November 21, 7:00 PM*

**GENERAL MEETING.** First United Methodist Church, 1551 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa. “A Year in the Life of North American Owls.” This is a free event and all are welcome.

## Out & About

*Sunday, October 2, 2016, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM*

### **Pole Mountain Raptor Hike**

Join Larry Broderick to observe birds of prey in the skies atop Pole Mountain. The 6-mile hike starts at the Sonoma Land Trust’s Little Black Mountain Preserve. This hike repeats on Sunday, October 16th. Fee is \$20 for members, \$35 for non-members. To register or add your name to a wait list, go to [https://www.sonomalandtrust.org/join\\_in/public\\_outings.html](https://www.sonomalandtrust.org/join_in/public_outings.html)

*Sunday, October 23, 2016, Noon – 3:00 PM*

### **International Snow Leopard Day Celebration**

Oak Hill Farm, 15101 California 12, Glen Ellen, CA 95442

Join friends and supporters of the Snow Leopard Conservancy in this educational event that will help to raise funds for Snow Leopard conservation. Fee is \$75. For information, check <http://snowleopardconservancy.org/2016/07/12/snow-leopard-day/> or inquire at [info@snowleopardconservancy.org](mailto:info@snowleopardconservancy.org)

*Wednesday, October 26, 2016, 8:30 – 10:30 AM*

### **“Winging It Wednesdays” Bird Walk**

Sonoma Valley Regional Park, 13630 Sonoma Hwy, Glen Ellen, CA 95442

Join experienced birding guide Dave LaCasse as he helps you identify and learn more about local birds in Sonoma County regional parks. The walk lasts 2 hours, moves at an easy pace, is free, interactive and fun for all ages. Parking is \$7 or free for Regional Parks members. Heavy rain cancels. There will be an additional walk on November 30th at Shollenberger Park in Petaluma (see <http://parks.sonomacounty.ca.gov/Activities/Calendar.aspx>).

### **Every Saturday**

*Sears Point Interpretive Talks and Bird Walks*

Sponsored by Sonoma Land Trust

Walk the newest section of the Bay Trail and experience the tidal marsh lands. Docents are available to answer questions. No registration needed. Parking available on Reclamation Road just south of the Lakeville Hwy/Hwy intersection. [https://www.sonomalandtrust.org/join\\_in/public\\_outings.html](https://www.sonomalandtrust.org/join_in/public_outings.html)



## Members' Column

New

### First Time Birding in Costa Rica

by Moss Henry

I went to Costa Rica for the first time in April and had two of my best birding days ever. My first stop was El Copal, a private lodge I heard about from Bill Doyle. It's a

The other great spot was Monteverde, perhaps the most famous birding location in Costa Rica. I hired another guide there, Adrian Mendez, again at Bill's suggestions. Adrian was as skilled as Cristian, and we saw lots of forest specialties, including quetzals, trogons, toucanets, bellbirds, barbets and antwrens. At a



Purple-throated Mountain Gem

Courtesy of Moss Henry

rustic affair but comfortable and wonderfully run by a local couple. The setting is spectacular in the rain forest. I hired a great guide, Cristian Urena, and counted over one hundred species that day --- that's land birds only! Among them: tanangers, antbirds, guans, parrots, and manakins, Watching Swallow-tailed Kites fly was certainly a highlight, and right from the deck of the lodge we saw lots of hummers, including Snowcaps and Thorntails. Capuchin monkeys were also common.

local hummingbird feeder I saw Violet Saberwings, Green Hermits, Lancebills, Purple-throated Mountain Gems and more. We also saw a Jaguarundi, Agouti and Coatimundi.

April is a great time to go because many of the local birds are breeding and easier to locate. And, it's the dry season. If anyone is interested in contact information for any of these places or guides, please feel free to get in touch with me ([mosshenry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mosshenry@sbcglobal.net)).

**A note to all Madrone members...**  
Do you have bird observations or experiences to share? Something that caught your eye in your backyard, on a hike in one of Sonoma County's parks or open spaces, or on a recent vacation? Please send a brief description (and a photo if you have one), and *Leaves* will include as many of these contributions as we can. It doesn't have to be exotic...just a chance to share whatever you find interesting.

**New Members**

**Petaluma**  
Janet Bearden

**Santa Rosa**  
Barb & Bill Kobabe

**Windsor**  
Jill Bulbeck

### Measure K in November - Renew Community Separators

Measure K on Sonoma County voters' November 2016 ballots is about protecting open space and farm lands – at no cost to taxpayers – for another 20 years. Passage of this ballot measure will renewal of longstanding voter protections for Sonoma County's Community Separators surrounding the county's cities and towns.

Measure K prevents sprawl into the greenbelts by requiring a vote of the people before intensifying current land use and zoning in Community Separators. Officially titled the Community Separator Protection Ordinance, Measure K will protect a total of 53,576 acres of open space and farm lands overdevelopment, three times as much land as before.

The multiple benefits of this Measure include preserving open space, family farms, waterways, drinking water, groundwater and recharge areas, wildlife corridors, hillsides, and woodlands. Accompanying benefits are clean air, water, and climate resiliency.

For more info, visit the web site: [www.keepcommunityseparators.com](http://www.keepcommunityseparators.com). Measure K also has a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/communityseparators/>.

*Thanks to Teri Shore of Greenbelt Alliance for background information on Measure K.*

*Note: The Madrone Audubon Board has endorsed Measure K.*



**50th  
West County CBC**

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**January 1, 2017**

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Post Christmas Bird  
Count Dinner...Join Us**

Madrone Audubon's West County Christmas Bird Count this year will be on New Year's Day, January 1, 2017. Yes, many of us normally take this day off and in many cultures, the first few days of the New Year are dedicated to quiet reflection and preparing for the year to come. With different Bay Area Audubon Chapters traditionally selecting certain weekends and days for Christmas Bird Counts, we find ourselves this year birding and counting on January 1.

At the end of that day around 5 p.m., everyone gathers at the Sebastopol Community Center at 390 Morris Street in Sebastopol to compile data, report highlights and enjoy a meal together. If you're not birding and counting that day, could you volunteer to help us with set-up and dinner service (buffet)? Everyone helps with clean-up afterwards. We usually depart the Center by 8:30 p.m. If you could volunteer to help, please contact Susan Kirks at [susankirks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susankirks@sbcglobal.net) or 707-241-5548.

This year, we're pleased to be receiving our meal from *Worth Our Weight* caterers based in Santa Rosa. Thanks to our Publicity Chair, Nancy Hair, for this idea and connection. As we go to press, we're working on our dinner menu, but suffice to say, it will be a hearty, yet simple, vegetarian meal. We ask all participants, as is our tradition, to contribute a dessert and also donate \$5 per person for the meal. For more information on the wonder-

ful group, *Worth Our Weight*, please visit their web site at [www.worthourweight.org](http://www.worthourweight.org). If you're not birding and counting that day and would like to join us for the meal and hear the CBC results, please just let us know, so we can include you in the total dinner count. Again, contact Susan at [susankirks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susankirks@sbcglobal.net), 707-241-5548.



**Audubon Adventures  
for 2016-17**

*by Carolyn Greene*

National Audubon's "*Audubon Adventures*" is a science standards-based environmental education curriculum offered free by our Madrone chapter to all 3rd-6th grade teachers in Sonoma County. Both electronic and paper subscriptions are available; program explorations include interactive games, puzzles, quizzes and topic-related resources for students and teachers. If you know a school or teacher who might be interested, contact Carolyn Greene at 805 443-7289 (cell & text) for information or to order an Audubon Adventures subscription (deadline: Dec. 1).



**Board Opening -  
Available Now**

Madrone's *Corresponding Secretary* role is available for a 1 or 2 year appointment. We could really use your help. Our Corresponding Secretary is the first interface with our members and supporters. This is an independent role and, at the same time, your participation in our once monthly Board of Directors meeting is welcomed and appreciated.

As the position name infers, you will receive and manage our Chapter's communications and correspondence. The Corresponding Secretary picks up our mail at the Post Office in Santa Rosa, reviews and distributes the mail, communicates

with other Board members for questions and info, and for membership renewals and similar types of correspondence, uses an Excel spreadsheet to record information. To help our Chapter, you'll want to be a good organizer so you can complete tasks and manage your time (a couple of times a year are busier, other times are fairly routine), probably reside in the Santa Rosa or Sebastopol area for easy access for post office trips, and have a computer with moderate skills in Excel. We also appreciate our Corresponding Secretary corresponding! You will have responsibilities for thank you notes and preparing letters for the President's signature. The Corresponding Secretary also deposits checks at our bank about twice per month, and a record of that is sent to the Membership Chair and Treasurer. The Corresponding Secretary, Membership Chair and Treasurer enjoy regular communication to keep our Chapter correspondence, membership and funds up to date. We think a 2-year appointment is ideal, as there's time for a learning curve, but an independent individual, interested in serving our Chapter and members, with good organization and communication skills and Excel experience, is just right for this role. Please contact Susan Kirks at [susankirks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:susankirks@sbcglobal.net) or Gordon Beebe at [gdbeebe@earthlink.net](mailto:gdbeebe@earthlink.net). We appreciate your consideration!



Madrone Audubon enjoyed  
participating in the  
Wine County Optics & Nature Festival  
in Sonoma  
September 11, 2016.

Thanks to Sonoma Birding and  
California State Parks  
for hosting  
this special Festival.

*See you in Sonoma in 2017!*





# Financial Summary – 2015-16

In this issue of Leaves, we share our Funds Statement for the fiscal year ending 06-30-16. (Petaluma Wetlands Alliance is now a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.)

MADRONE AUDUBON SOCIETY							
FUNDS STATEMENT							
July 2015 through June 2016							
	Operating	Sanctuary & Memorial	Conservation & Education	Total	Stewardship Task Force	GRAND TOTAL	
Balance as of June 30, 2015	14694.22	6,113.00	57892.99	78,700.21	9026.05	145,660.36	
<b>Income</b>							
Friends' Dues	13,960.00	0.00	0.00	13,960.00	0.00	14,365.00	
Donations	20,455.70	0.00	501.00	20,956.70	400.00	22,031.70	
Donations - E.I. Smith Trust	75,000.00	0.00	0.00	75,000.00	0.00	75,000.00	
Bird-A-Thon	257.00	0.00	7,285.35	7,542.35	0.00	7,542.35	
NAS Sharing	5,460.75	0.00	0.00	5,460.75	0.00	5,460.75	
Investment Income	626.17	0.00	0.00	626.17	0.00	626.17	
Merchandise Sales	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00	
Miscellaneous Income	628.47	0.00	0.00	628.47	0.00	628.47	
BLM Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>102,433.09</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7,786.35</b>	<b>110,219.44</b>	<b>2,900.00</b>	<b>113,794.44</b>	
<b>Expense</b>							
ADMINISTRATIVE	12,828.50	0.00	320.00	13,148.50	0.00	13,148.50	
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT	1,867.60	0.00	0.00	1,867.60	0.00	1,867.60	
CONSERVATION	0.00	0.00	4,629.07	4,629.07	0.00	4,629.07	
EDUCATION	0.00	0.00	2,976.04	2,976.04	0.00	2,976.04	
LEAVES	14,535.87	0.00	0.00	14,535.87	0.00	14,535.87	
MEMBERSHIP EXPENSES	1,377.92	0.00	0.00	1,377.92	0.00	1,377.92	
OUTREACH	0.00	0.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	25.00	
JUNIOR AUDUBON	0.00	0.00	45.64	45.64	0.00	45.64	
GENERAL MEETINGS	1,881.31	0.00	56.29	1,937.60	0.00	1,937.60	
STEWARDSHIP TASK FORCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,892.86	2,892.86	
BREEDING BIRD ATLAS	0.00	0.00	92.00	92.00	0.00	92.00	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>32,491.20</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>8,144.04</b>	<b>40,635.24</b>	<b>2,892.86</b>	<b>102,137.20</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>69,941.89</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-357.69</b>	<b>69,584.20</b>	<b>7.14</b>	<b>11,657.24</b>	
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	<b>84,636.11</b>	<b>6,113.00</b>	<b>57,535.30</b>	<b>148,284.41</b>	<b>9,033.19</b>	<b>157,317.60</b>	
Grand Total reflects PWA inclusion. See below for PWA Funds Summary.							

PETALUMA WETLANDS ALLIANCE				
	General	PEF Grant	Mary Moore	Total - PWA
	PWA	PWA	PWA	
<b>Balance 12-31-15</b>	<b>25,904.67</b>	<b>23,587.87</b>	<b>8,626.25</b>	<b>58,118.79</b>
six months ended 06-30-16				
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>
Expense				
PEF unused grant return		21,511.48		21,511.48
Grant to PWA	25,904.67	2,076.39	8,626.25	36,607.31
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>25,904.67</b>	<b>23,587.87</b>	<b>8,626.25</b>	<b>58,118.79</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-25,904.67</b>	<b>-23,587.87</b>	<b>-8,626.25</b>	<b>-58,118.79</b>
<b>Balance 06-30-16</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>



## Madrone Audubon Society

Post Office Box 1911  
Santa Rosa, California 95402

### October/November 2016

Madrone Leaves is published bimonthly from October through May, plus one issue each in June and September.



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### MADRONE LEAVES



Madrone Audubon Society meets on the third Monday of each month, except in June, July, August, and December. Meetings start at 7:00 PM at First United Methodist Church, 1551 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa. All membership meetings and walks are open to the public. Information: e-mail - [info@madroneaudubon.org](mailto:info@madroneaudubon.org)

<b>President:</b> Susan Kirks - <a href="mailto:susankirks@sbcglobal.net">susankirks@sbcglobal.net</a> ..... 241-5548	<b>Audubon Adventures:</b> Carolyn Greene – <a href="mailto:cgnpark@yahoo.com">cgnpark@yahoo.com</a> ..... 805-443-7289
<b>Vice President:</b> Position open	<b>Leaves Editor:</b> Asenath LaRue - <a href="mailto:asenathlarue@gmail.com">asenathlarue@gmail.com</a> ..... 528-3648
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<b>Corresponding Secretary:</b> Position open	<b>Hospitality:</b> Linda Hammer - <a href="mailto:gardenladylee@aol.com">gardenladylee@aol.com</a> ..... 823-4389
<b>Treasurer:</b> Position open	<b>Observations:</b> Dan Nelson - <a href="mailto:birdsurf64@sbcglobal.net">birdsurf64@sbcglobal.net</a> ..... 479-2918
<b>Membership:</b> Questions to Susan Kirks (Position open) - <a href="mailto:susankirks@sbcglobal.net">susankirks@sbcglobal.net</a>	<b>Past President:</b> Gordon Beebe - <a href="mailto:gdbeebe@earthlink.net">gdbeebe@earthlink.net</a> ..... 829-9017
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<b>Circulation:</b> Joannie Dranginis - <a href="mailto:joanhd@att.net">joanhd@att.net</a> ..... 523-4373	<b>IMBD:</b> Veronica Bowers - <a href="mailto:vbowers@gmail.com">vbowers@gmail.com</a> ..... 829-2955
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<b>Outreach:</b> Position open	<b>Bird Rescue Center</b> ..... 523-BIRD
<b>Publicity:</b> Nancy Hair - <a href="mailto:doghairmancy@yahoo.com">doghairmancy@yahoo.com</a> ..... 823-1073	<b>Native Songbird Care &amp; Conservation</b> ..... 484-6502
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<b>Saturday Bird Walks:</b> Gordon Beebe - <a href="mailto:gdbeebe@earthlink.net">gdbeebe@earthlink.net</a> ..... 583-3115	<b>National Audubon Society:</b> 225 Varick Street, NY, NY 10014..... 212-979-3000
<b>Bird-A-Thon Coordinator:</b> Carolyn Greene – <a href="mailto:cgnpark@yahoo.com">cgnpark@yahoo.com</a> ..... 805-443-7289	

#### Join Madrone Audubon – Support Your Local Chapter

Please complete this form if you wish to join Madrone Audubon or renew your Madrone membership

Please note: We are a chapter of National Audubon, but membership in and donations to Madrone Audubon are separate and support our local chapter. Membership and donations are tax deductible.

- New member       Renewal  
 Senior \$15       Basic Member \$20       Family \$30  
 Sustaining \$50       Supporting \$100       Patron \$500

Madrone Audubon is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our tax identification number is 94-6172986

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Please send my *Leaves* via email

**Please make your check payable to “Madrone Audubon Society.”**

Detach this panel and mail to: **Madrone Audubon Society,**

**P.O. Box 1911, Santa Rosa, CA 95402**

Visit us on the Web at: <http://www.madroneaudubon.org>