Calendar

Aug. 12 Hayward Regional Shoreline
Aug. 21 Board Meeting, Call Evelyn Cormier
Sep. 4 Membership Meeting, Pleasanton
Sep. 4 Deadline for Oct. 1-Nov. 1 Kite Call
Sep. 6 Alameda South Shore
Sep. 18 Board Meeting, Call Evelyn Cormier
Sep. 19 Audubon Bobcat Ranch
Sep. 22 Vaux’s Swift Migration
Sep. 29 Coyote Hills Regional Park
Oct. 2 Membership Meeting, Fremont

Membership Meetings

Date: September 4 Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Pleasanton Middle School
5001 Case Avenue, 94566
Topic: Hunting with Birds of Prey in Kyrgyzstan
Presenter: Dennis Keen

Dennis Keen worked in the Kyrgyz Republic from September 2010 to July 2011 on a Fulbright Fellowship in Anthropology. He received his B.A. in linguistics with a concentration in Russian from the University of California, Santa Cruz. In addition to his work on falconry, Mr. Keen’s interest in ethnomusicology has led him to pursue an apprenticeship in Kyrgyz folk instrumentation with the well-known komuzchu, Nurak Abdirakhmanov, and he writes regularly on various topics for the regional magazine The Spektator.

To reach Pleasanton Middle School, take I-680 toward Pleasanton. Exit at Bernal Avenue and head east on Bernal to Case Avenue. Turn right on Case. The school is located on the right. Park at the south end of the parking lot. We are meeting in the library. Go to the left once you enter the campus.

Date: October 2 Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Carlton Plaza
3800 Walnut Ave, Fremont, CA 94538
Topic: California’s Tricolored Blackbirds
Presenter: Robert Meese

Dr. Meese, of UC Davis, will survey the condition of these embattled birds in his presentation, subtitled “Centennial Trends and Prospects for the Future.” Between 2008 and 2011 the population of this semi-endemic bird dropped by 135,000 to only 259,000. However, not all is lost. Read about one successful conservation effort on page 10 under the heading, Tricoloreds Protected.

This talk will be very interesting! Hope to see you there.

Date: November 13 Time: 7:30
Place: Casa Sandoval
1200 Russell Way Hayward, 94541
Note that this meeting is one week later than usual, to avoid conflict with election day.

Goodies After the Presentation

To give you a chance to schmooz with friends and the strength to return home, time is set aside after the official agenda to enjoy finger treats brought by volunteers. If you would like to share some of your favorites, contact the Bertillions at 510.782.4874.

Remember that recycling is best, so bring your reusable cup to enjoy the OAS-supplied hot or cold beverages, —A&JB
Field Trips

August 12, Sun., 9:00 a.m., Hayward Regional Shoreline. Leaders: Kathy Robertson and Rich Nicholson, rsn711@yahoo.com

Meet at the Grant Avenue staging area in San Lorenzo for a walk along the canal to the shoreline and south to reach Oro Loma Marsh at high tide. We expect to see shorebirds such as Red Knots, Short-billed Dowitchers, Ruddy Turnstones, and Black-bellied Plovers as well as gulls and terns and maybe a resident Osprey. From I-880 South, take the Washington Avenue exit. Turn right on Washington and right on Grant Avenue. From I-880 North, take the Hesperian Blvd. exit. Make a sharp left onto Hesperian and a right on Grant Avenue. In both cases continue west on Grant Avenue to the HARD parking lot near the end of the road. Facilities are available. Free.

Sept. 6, Thu., 9:00 a.m., Alameda South Shore. Leader: Jerry Steenhoven, 510.881.1233, fieldtrips@ohlone-audubon.org

This area usually provides good views of shorebirds as they arrive from northern breeding grounds. Meet at the Elsie Roemer Bird Sanctuary viewing platform where Broadway meets Shore Line Drive. From Hayward or San Leandro, take I-880 to Davis Street exit west and go to Doolittle Drive. Turn right on Doolittle to the bridge to Alameda, where the street becomes Otis Drive. Turn left at Broadway, drive southwest to Shore Line Drive, and park along the street. Do NOT park on streets posted “No parking on Thursdays for street sweeping.” Bring lunch, binoculars and scopes. This is planned as a 3-hour trip. We’ll end at Martin Luther King Regional Shoreline where facilities are available.

Sept. 19, Wed., 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Audubon Bobcat Ranch. Leader: Rich Cimino, rscimino@gmail.com

Bobcat Ranch, owned by Audubon California, is a lovely area of blue oak woodland and rangeland in the foothills just west of Winters. Visiting the ranch is by special arrangement only, so this is a rare opportunity to see a remarkable place. We’ll be joined by the ranch biologist, who will lead us on an easy walk around the ranch. Expected species are oak woodland/grassland birds, including Lark Sparrow, Golden Eagle, and Lewis’s Woodpecker. Bring lunch and water. Directions will be provided to registered participants. Contact Rich Cimino to sign up: rscimino@gmail.com.

Sept. 22, Sat. 6:00 p.m.--sunset, Vaux’s Swift Migration. Leaders: Jerry Steenhoven 510.881.1233 and Gail Ryujin, gailryujin@yahoo.com

We hope to see the spectacle of thousands of migrating Vaux’s Swifts entering a brick smokestack at the McNear Brickyard near San Rafael at sunset (7:02 p.m.) Directions: Take I-580 West across the Richmond-San Rafael Bridge to SR-101 North. Exit at the 1st off ramp from 101, which is for downtown San Rafael. Turn right at the signal onto 2nd St. (one-way to the right). In two blocks the street becomes Pt. San Pedro Rd., which is a two-way street. Follow Pt. San Pedro Rd. 3.4 mi. along the shoreline to the entrance drive of the McNear Brickyard. We will meet outside the locked gate and will bird the area for shorebirds, raptors and fall migrants before we drive into the brickyard as a group. Warm clothing and lawn chairs are suggested for viewing the Swifts. No facilities are available.

Sept. 29, Sat. 8:30-12:00, Coyote Hills Regional Park–No Name Trail. Leaders: Rich Nicholson, 510.483.5381, and Nancy Christensen, nancyvnn22@hotmail.com $15

No Name Trail leads us out about a mile into the heart of San Francisco Bay where thousands of birds using the Pacific Flyway stop off to rest and refuel. Goodly numbers of birds and sometimes rarities can be seen here. The trail is flat and well worth the walk, but it turns to sticky clay in the rain. Restrooms are available. Rain cancels. Meet at the Quarry staging area, first parking lot on the left after you enter the park. $5 parking fee, free to annual EBRP pass holders. To reach the park from I-880 take SR-84 toward the Dumbarton Bridge. Exit at Paseo Padre Parkway, turn right on Paseo Padre and go about one mile. Turn left on Patterson Pass Rd. to enter the park. —SF

Other Birding Events

Ohlone field trips are fun and interesting. Other field trips and festivals add another dimension to our birding fun and education. We get to hear widely known experts, touch and compare new equipment, and often get attractive discounts as the conference comes to an end. Here are three relatively close events that you may have visited in the past:

**Monterey Bay Birding Festival**

When: September 13 to September 16
Where: Aptos, CA
Event Description: 831.726.8052, montereybaybirthing@hotmail.com
Keynote Speaker: THE BIG YEAR Birder Greg Miller Website: http://www.montereybaybirding.org/

**Sandhill Crane Festival**

When: November 2 to November 4.
Where: Lodi, CA
Event Description: 800.581.6150, info@cranefestival.com

**Western Field Ornithologists Annual Conference**

When: September 26 to September 30
Where: Petaluma, CA
Event Description: 650.359.2068, Robbie Fischer Visit Website: http://www.westernfieldornithologists.org/

Alice’s Class

The next session of Alice’s Birding Field Trips Class will be scheduled differently from previous sessions. They will meet every other Tuesday: August 28, September 11, September 25, and October 9. The class will bird a different, excellent site each session from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m..

The field trips will concentrate on the field identification, life styles, and ecology of local birds. Alice’s birding class is different because it consists of tutoring during actual birding, rather than sitting through lectures.

Alice has been teaching Birding Field Trips for over 37 years, and is an active member of Ohlone Audubon Society. Class size is limited to 15, so register early.

Questions about the class and registration information: Contact Alice at amhoch@aol.com or 510.657.0475. —AH
Field Trips, July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013

Following is the tentative list for Ohlone’s bird walks for the next fiscal year. We have a great group of volunteer leaders and they once again have come through for us for 2012-2013. Please note that the schedule is subject to change for dates, locations and leaders. Be sure to check the appropriate Kite Call for detailed descriptions and our website for possible last minute changes. Please verify with the leaders that the trip will take place if weather is an issue. We’re always receptive to additional trips and if you care to lead or co-lead a trip and have a specific destination in mind, feel free to contact me and we’ll work it into the schedule.

Stephanie Floyd, FieldTrips@OhloneAudubon.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Leader(s)</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Leader(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>07/29</td>
<td>Hayward Shoreline (Frank’s Dump)+San Leandro Marina</td>
<td>Bob Richmond &amp; Stephanie Floyd</td>
<td>02/08</td>
<td>Mercey Hot Springs</td>
<td>Stephanie Floyd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/12</td>
<td>Hayward Shoreline (Oro Loma Marsh)</td>
<td>Kathy Robertson &amp; Rich Nicholson</td>
<td>02/13</td>
<td>Lake Elizabeth</td>
<td>Stephanie Floyd &amp; Sandy Ferreira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/06</td>
<td>Alameda South Shore</td>
<td>Jerry &amp; Judy Steenhoven</td>
<td>2/16-2/17</td>
<td>Los Banos Weekend</td>
<td>Phil &amp; Pat Gordon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/18</td>
<td>Audubon Bobcat Ranch</td>
<td>Rich Cimino</td>
<td>02/23</td>
<td>San Joaquin National Wildlife Refuge</td>
<td>Steve Huckabone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/22</td>
<td>Vaux’s Swift Migration - McNear Brickyard San Rafael</td>
<td>Jerry Steenhoven &amp; Gail Ryujin</td>
<td>03/03</td>
<td>Coyote Hills Regional Park</td>
<td>Maggie Clark &amp; Jerry Steenhoven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/06</td>
<td>Martinelli Center &amp; Poppy Ridge/E. Livermore</td>
<td>Ray Fontaine &amp; Leslie Koeng</td>
<td>03/23</td>
<td>Birding by Ear at Coyote Hills Regional Park</td>
<td>Bill Scoggins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/12</td>
<td>Hawk Hill &amp; Rodeo Lagoon</td>
<td>Stephanie Floyd</td>
<td>04/03</td>
<td>Garretson Point</td>
<td>Rich Nicholson &amp; Stephanie Floyd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/21</td>
<td>Coyote Hills Regional Park</td>
<td>Jerry Ting &amp; Vicki Robinson</td>
<td>04/06</td>
<td>North Livermore</td>
<td>Ray Fontaine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/09</td>
<td>Pacific Commons Linear Park</td>
<td>Brenda Senturia &amp; Rich Nicholson</td>
<td>04/20</td>
<td>Swallow Festival - Lake Elizabeth</td>
<td>Phil Gordon &amp; Sandy Ferreira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/17</td>
<td>Berkeley Pier &amp; Marina</td>
<td>Jim &amp; Linda Hargrove</td>
<td>04/24</td>
<td>Mines Road</td>
<td>Stephanie Floyd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/01</td>
<td>Sandhill Cranes</td>
<td>Bill Scoggins</td>
<td>05/04</td>
<td>Del Valle State Recreation Area</td>
<td>Steve Huckabone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/05</td>
<td>Lake Chabot</td>
<td>Rich Nicholson &amp; Nancy Christensen</td>
<td>05/09</td>
<td>Garin Regional Park</td>
<td>Maggie Clark &amp; Mona Brauer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/11</td>
<td>Garin Regional Park</td>
<td>Jerry Steenhoven &amp; Vicki Robinson</td>
<td>05/15</td>
<td>Hayward Shoreline - Interpretive Center (Least Tern Colony)</td>
<td>Bob Richmond &amp; Rich Nicholson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/10</td>
<td>Arrowhead Marsh</td>
<td>Rich Nicholson</td>
<td>05/21</td>
<td>Niles Hotspots</td>
<td>Kathy Robertson &amp; Stephanie Floyd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/15</td>
<td>Pescadero (Brussels Sprouts Farm/ Pigeon Point Lighthouse)</td>
<td>Stephanie Floyd &amp; Mona Brauer</td>
<td>05/29</td>
<td>Leona Canyon</td>
<td>Kathy Robertson &amp; Stephanie Floyd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/19</td>
<td>Shadow Cliffs Regional Park</td>
<td>Kathy Robertson &amp; Steve Huckabone</td>
<td>06/01</td>
<td>Sunol Wilderness</td>
<td>Brenda Senturia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/26</td>
<td>Sutter Buttes/Gray Lodge</td>
<td>Don Schmoldt</td>
<td>6/22-6/23</td>
<td>Sierra - Caples Lake Weekend</td>
<td>Phil &amp; Pat Gordon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/02</td>
<td>Coyote Hills Regional Park</td>
<td>Jerry Ting &amp; Stephanie Floyd</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Words of Presidential Wisdom for the Autumn

Seen any exciting new birds lately? It will soon be September and you can tell us all about it. We can catch up with summer sightings and other news starting with our membership meeting in September.

Ohlone Audubon has some shifting-around of Board positions. Stephanie Floyd is our field trip leader and Mona Brauer has taken over the ways and means duties. Margaret will continue as the corresponding secretary. Marilyn Trabert has lined up some great programs to keep us informed and entertained. There is an open Director slot, so join us!

Along with field trips and programs we continue to work diligently to monitor the impacts on wildlife due to ever increasing pressures on habitat and open space necessary for birds and other wildlife to be sustained. Carin High and Rich Cimino continue to be in the forefront of this effort. We applaud them for their efforts and appreciate their keeping us informed. –EC
Tricoloreds Protected

The entire population of Tricolored Blackbirds, a California Bird Species of Special Concern, found in California’s Central Valley was about 160,000 in 2011. That is about half its size in 2008. This year, farmers and biologists protected about a fifth of the species’ entire global population—after farmers agreed to delay their harvest schedule and allow the chicks to fledge safely. Four farmers volunteered to join a program with the USDA’s National Resources Conservation Service (NRCA) allowing them to postpone harvesting until the birds’ nesting was over. The program is the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), provided technical and financial assistance to the four farmers from Kern, Merced and Tulare counties who participated in saving the birds. The birds successfully fledged in late May.

Keiller Kyle, a Tricolored Blackbird expert with Audubon California, monitors the rare birds’ location patterns and development stages in areas throughout the Central Valley. With Kyle’s expertise and the help of NRCS biologist, Jesse Bahm, conservationists were able to target their efforts and develop the right harvesting schedule to protect the birds and worked with the farmers to assess the impact a harvest delay would have on crop quality and quantity. “We are pleased that these farmers are willing to help protect this native California bird, and a lot of that has to do with reaching out to them with a strategy that considered the needs of both the birds and the farmers. NRCS is a crucial partner for outreach and funding that makes this program successful,” said Kyle. “This is a powerful partnership of private landowners, nonprofit conservation organizations, and public agencies working to protect a unique species in a working landscape.”

Every spring, Tricolored Blackbirds build large colonies of nests in the Central Valley’s marshy areas and also in areas that were historically marshland but are now cropland. The birds have adapted to the change in vegetation and now over 40 percent of the birds build their nests in silage fields such as triticale and wheat. Unfortunately, the nesting schedule of the species conflicts with the harvesting schedule of the farmers. The species is now federally listed as a Bird of Conservation Concern, a California Bird Species of Special Concern, and are also protected under the provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Farmers with nesting Tricolored Blackbirds can help the species by delaying their harvesting until the birds are fully fledged. However, this also delays summer planting, can disrupt the equipment and labor schedules the farmers have negotiated in advance, and also results in a loss of quality to the silage fields hosting the birds. The voluntary steps taken by these four farmers ensured that the birds were protected and fully fledged. “We found that when farmers understood the situation they wanted to do what they could to help the birds,” says Jennifer Cavanaugh, Wetlands Biologist with NRCS. “It was really satisfying to work with the farmers and Audubon California to find a win-win plan for helping wildlife while allowing farmers to continue to provide feed for their livestock.”

“The people from NRCS and Audubon CA came out after I was accepted into their program and explained everything to me,” said Mr. Gorzeman, one of the farmers. “They compen-
Kimber Open Space Saved

The Fremont City Council adopted the homeowners’ petition to keep the open space open in the Kimber Farms tract in a vote taken July 18. The Council voted 3-2 to adopt the petition initiative offered by the “Save Kimber Park” committee. More than 13,000 signatures were gathered to qualify the petition for the ballot.

The vote does not cancel the proposal by the landowner/developer as the land is designated a “study area.” So the committee expects to continue to monitor the process through its required steps.

Ohlone Members

Ohlone sends a warm welcome and thank you to the following new and renewing chapter members:


Is it time to renew? Look at your mailing label - it will tell you. For example: “Pd Thru 09/1/2012” indicates that you are paid through September 1, 2012. A red “RENEW?” indicates that this is your last Kite Call! If you see a “JOIN LOCAL?” on your label this indicates that you have joined the National Audubon Society, but alas, not your local Ohlone chapter. To renew or join please send a $20 check to Pat Gordon, Membership Chair, 1922 Hillsdale Street, Hayward, CA 94541-5428.

Thanks! —PAG

Ohlone Audubon Society 2012-13 Budget

### Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAS</td>
<td>2,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Memberships</td>
<td>5,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales</td>
<td>660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividend/Interest</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>15,835</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve funds</td>
<td>26,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income and Reserves</strong></td>
<td><strong>41,860</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kite Call</td>
<td>4,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member Meetings</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase Merchandise</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Expense</td>
<td>2,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Bird Counts</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Raising</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bette Wentzel Garden</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swallow Festival</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Tax</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viewing Platform</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>41,860</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Finance Notes

1. Reserve Funds include money set aside for the viewing platform in La Rivera Marsh at Don Edwards NWR. It has been percolating through the government documentation and personnel changes at the Refuge for at least four years. It may bear fruit in 2013.

2. We are grateful for the fact that we have been in the black for five years, now. This is a condition that is almost unprecedented in Ohlone’s 46-year history.

3. We owe the financial condition to the generous donors and to the wonderful people who work diligently and without remuneration on the group’s behalf. —DE
Please renew your Ohlone membership by the date shown on your address label. Direct questions about Kite Call Delivery to the Membership Chair.

President: Evelyn Cormier, President@OhloneAudubon.org, 510.471.0475
Vice Pres: Allen Bertillion, 25384 Mohr Dr., Hayward 94545, 510.782.4874
Past Pres: Helen Sowers, 18492 Capricorn Court, CV 94546, 510.537.2377
Treasurer: Helen Sowers, Treasurer@OhloneAudubon.org, 510.537.2377
Rec. Secty: Carin High, Secretary@OhloneAudubon.org.
Cor. Secty: Margaret Emery, 260 El Caminito, Livermore 94550, 925.443.3073
Directors:
  2013 Jackie Bertillion, 25384 Mohr Dr., Hayward 94545, 510.782.4874
  2014 Michael Mortensen, mg_av_m@hotmail.com 510.459.8466
  2015 Call Evelyn Cormier
Web Site: http://OhloneAudubon.org
WebMaster: Leslie Koenig, webmaster@ohloneaudubon.org

Education: Phil Gordon, Education@OhloneAudubon.org, 510.538.3550
Hospitality: Allen & Jackie Bertillion, 25384 Mohr Dr., Hayward, 510.782.4874
Editor: Don Emery, Editor@OhloneAudubon.org, 925.443.3073
Field Trips: Stephanie Floyd, FieldTrips@OhloneAudubon.org
Membership: Pat Gordon, Membership@OhloneAudubon.org, 510.538.3550
Programs: Marilyn Trabert, Programs@OhloneAudubon.org, 925.9395798
Publicity: Arlene Chin, 925.447.8843
Conservation: Rich Cimino, Conservation@OhloneAudubon.org, and
  Carin High: Secretary@OhloneAudubon.org.
NAS California: 765 University Avenue, Suite 200, Sacramento 95825,
  916.649.7600, http://www.ca.audubon.org

Support your local BIRDS...

Ohlone Audubon Society

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
E-mail ____________________________
Kite Call Delivery: Paper ☐ Web ☐ Both ☐
We do not share our mailing list.

Join Ohlone Audubon Society (OAS) by mailing a $20 check payable to OAS with this coupon to:
  Pat Gordon
  OAS Membership Chair
  1922 Hillsdale Street
  Hayward, CA 94541

All are welcome to enjoy any of our events, meetings or field trips. Thank you for your support!

The Kite Call is published 8 times yearly by Ohlone Audubon Society, 260 El Caminito, Livermore, CA 94550, on recycled paper.