



Song Sparrow

www.napasolanoaudubon.com

NSAS General Meeting
7:00 P.M. **Monday, October 11, 2004**
Solano County Office of Education
Waterman Room
5100 Business Center Drive, Suisun City

Monday, October 11th, 2004— Speaker 7:30

Our Wild Life Refuges

Christy Smith, Refuge Manager of San Pablo Bay NWR and Marin Islands NWR will be giving the NSAS program in October. She will describe how the two refuges are managed, what research is being conducted, environmental education programs offered, and availability of public access.

Christy will also talk about the upcoming public scoping meeting, for the Comprehensive Conservation Plan that we will be developing for Marin Islands.

Christy has a Masters Degree in Wildlife Science, and has worked for the FWS for 10 years. She is a new member of NSAS Audubon, and recently moved to the Bay area 1 1/2 years ago.

Directions: Take the Green Valley exit from eastbound or westbound I-80 and go north to the first road which is Business Center Road. Turn west and head toward the Costco store which is northwest of the junction of I-80 and I-680. The Board of Education Building is on the right side of the road before you reach Costco. If you're coming north on I-680, take the Cordelia Road exit and make three right turns to go under the highway and north on Green Valley Road which is the frontage road west of I-80. Go over I-80 and make a left turn on Business Center Rd. **Please go inside the building and go to the Waterman Room.**

For more information: visit
www.napasolanoaudubon.com or call (707)224-6133

Birding Optics Field Days

Catherine Waters

The birding optics field days are coming up October 22-24, 2004 at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine. These days are sponsored by Sea and Sage Audubon to give birders and sports enthusiasts an opportunity to trial test the newest in birding optics in a field setting. Leupold, Zeiss, Leica, Swarovski, Brunton, Bausch and Lomb/Bushnell, Kowa, Swift, Bogen, and others will all be represented. There will be photographic and hearing enhancement equipment available for testing, too. Workshops (for a fee) on a wide range of topics will be given at the duck club and include: optics trials testing, field sketching for beginner and intermediate, Jon Dunn's gull workshop with field trip, warbler identification workshop with Dunn and Garrett, butterfly identification, digi-scoping, optics product review, etc. There will be marsh walks on Saturday and Sunday, free of charge with advance reservations.

The field days are being held in conjunction with Sea and Sage Audubon's annual pancake breakfast and natural history used book sale, on Saturday, October 23. Good food (\$7.00 per person) and great bargains in birding, travel, gardening and nature books. Tickets for the breakfast are required in order to take advantage of the great bargains offered at the book sale! Its a fundraiser for Sea and Sage's education committee.

****Special discounts and opportunities are being offered for volunteers for this event. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, see the sign up sheet at the Sea and Sage website. People from all chapters are welcome****

Here is your chance to see it all in one place! www.seaandsageaudubon.org for registration, reservations and information. Questions? robcatwaters@earthlink.net or kenyon@exo.com or call 949-261-7963.

Field Trip to Huichica Creek Unit-Napa Sonoma Marsh and Gourmet Picnic

DATE: October 16, 20004

LEADER: Margaret Barson 257-8389
mbarson@pacbell.net

COORDINATOR: David Takeuchi 643-5544
davidtakeuchi@aol.com



DESTINATION LOCATION: Meet at the Buchli Station parking lot 9:00am. This will be a morning birding field trip followed by a gourmet picnic at the Bouchaine Winery.

Directions: Take highway 29 from Napa or Vallejo and turn west onto Hwy 12/121. Turn left on to Duhig Rd (Domaine Carneros is on the corner). Go south on Duhig to Los Amigos Rd. Turn left onto Los Amigos and continue for 1.5 miles. Turn right onto Buchli Station Rd. Continue through the vineyards and you will pass the Bouchaine Winery on the right. Continue down the road and over the railroad tracks to the Buchli Station parking lot at the end of the road.

This is a beautiful marsh habitat with a short, easy walk and good water views. California Department of Fish and Game manages both salt and fresh water ponds here for wildlife. Expect to see ducks, shorebirds, raptors and many other birds. Dress in layers. Bring binoculars and scopes if you have them.

We will gather at the Bouchaine Winery around 1:00 pm for our gourmet picnic. Don't let the word gourmet intimidate you. Just bring your favorite potluck dish to share with the group, finger food, salad, entrée, desert, drinks.... The wine tasting room will be open for you to sample their wares. Bon Appetite.

Rain Cancels

Napa-Solano Audubon Society

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Membership	<i>Unassigned for coming year</i>
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Ways & Means	<i>Vacant</i>
CBC	Robin Leong707-643-1287

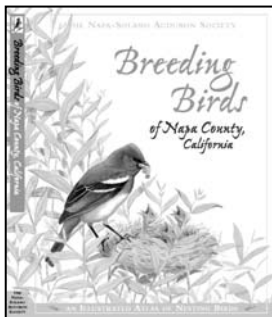
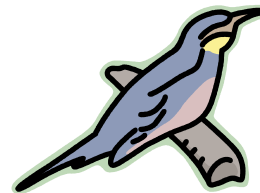
Song Sparrow

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Features	

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NSAS Board of Directors Meeting are held the last Wednesday of the month, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Re/Max Realty Office, 723 & 729 Amador, corner of Amador and Ohio Streets in Vallejo. All members are always welcome.



Breeding Birds of Napa County, California

“An essential inventory of the breeding birds....shows the richness and diversity of Napa County” -- David Allen Sibley

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Mail this order form with your check payable to Napa-Solano Audubon Society, P.O. Box 5027, Vallejo, CA 94591. For more information, contact napasmith@sbcglobal.net

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NAPA-SOLANO AUDUBON SOCIETY FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

www.napasolanoaudubon.com

October 2004 - June 2005

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>LEADER</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
October 16 - Saturday	Huichica Creek (Buchli Station), Napa Co. Gourmet Picnic	Margaret Barson David Takeuchi	707-257-8389
November 3 - Wednesday	Northwest Vacaville Neighborhood	John Wagnitz	707-447-2685
November 13 - Saturday	Sacramento Wildlife Refuge, Glenn Co/ Gray Lodge, Butte Co	John Boyd	707-255-1475
December 4 - Saturday	Rush Ranch, Solano Co	Joanne Castro	707-644-8191
December 18 - Saturday	Newell Ranch, American Canyon, Napa	Jo Maillard	707-226-6665
December 27 - Monday	Benicia Christmas Bird Count	Robin Leong	707-643-1287
January 15 - Saturday:	Lake Solano/Montecello Dam, Solano Co	Jim Knight	707-448-6596
January 21 - 23	9 th Annual San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival, Mare Island, Vallejo, CA	Myrna Hayes, Festival Coordinator	707-557-9816
February 2 - Wednesday	Northwest Vacaville	John Wagnitz	707-447-2685
February 12 - Saturday	Open		
February 19 - 20 - Sat - Sun	Klamath Basin/Tule Lake, Siskiyou Co	Charlotte Kisling/ (John Boyd)	916-397-2770
February 26 - Saturday	Owling, Solano Co	Robin Leong	707-643-1287
March 12 - Saturday	Grizzley Island, Fairfield, Solano Co	John Robinson	707-864-8279
March 23 - Wednesday	Rush Creek, Black John Slough, Sonoma Co	Jim Knight	707-448-6596
April 6 - Wednesday	Hanns Park, Vallejo, Ca	Joanne Castro	707-644-8191
April 16 - Saturday	Solano Co Transect	Robin Leong	707-643-1287
May 4 - Wednesday	Fairfield Neighborhood	Uzelle Williams / Fran Scarlet, Tim Jenkins	707-425-2732 timwjenkins@jcis.net
May 14 - Saturday	Napa-Solano Valley Lakes	Mike Rippey	
June 18 - 19 - Sat - Sun	Plumas-Eureka, near Blairsden/Graeagle, (North of Yuba Pass) Plumas Co	Jerry Karr	707-643-7089
June	Churchill, Canada	Robin Leong	707-643-1287

American Canyon Wetlands Field Trip Report

John Robinson

Twelve very enthusiastic birders attended this walk with the leader, which took place on a day especially suited for bird-watching. The morning began with high overcast clouds which cleared to blue skies and calm winds, with temperatures in the upper 60's. John C. Robinson led the trip and helped all of the participants improve their bird identification skills. In fact, everyone present received a copy of John's "10 Secrets to Bird Identification" pamphlet.

Over 30 species were observed throughout the course of the morning, including Amer. White Pelicans (over 60), a Greater Scaup (uncommon at this time of year), over seven species of shorebirds, a migrating Say's Phoebe, a wide variety of ducks, and a Peregrine Falcon that remained perched for several minutes affording everyone excellent views. Of interest also

were the ducks (including the Mallard, N. Shoveler, N. Pintail, Cinnamon Teal, and Green-winged Teal). Most of the ducks had not yet completed their annual molt and thus many of the males looked just as dull, drab, and mottled-brown in appearance as the females, making identification that much harder. In the end, however, John Robinson provided the group with a number of useful, lesser-known tips on how to improve one's bird identification skills; and by the end of the morning many of the participants were successfully identifying the birds on their own.

Just before the field trip ended, the group took a quick swing by the South White Slough wetland at Highways 37 and 29, where we were successful in locating two Black Skimmers - one adult and one in juvenile plumage.

FRIENDS OF NAPA-SOLANO AUDUBON SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP ONLY \$25 per year

One hundred percent, of *Friends of the Napa-Solano Audubon Society* Membership dues will stay in our local Chapter to support local birding, local conservation education and advocacy, and local birding science including the new Breeding Bird Atlas of Solano County. *Friends of the Napa-Solano Audubon Society* members receive periodic issues of Song Sparrow but do not receive Audubon Magazine.

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- 1. _____ I do not wish to receive any communications from National Audubon Society.
- 2. _____ Do not share any of my personal information with any other organization.

Please make your \$25 check for Friends of the Napa-Solano Audubon Society Membership payable to Napa-Solano Audubon Society (NSAS) and mail it to: NSAS, PO Box 5027, Vallejo, CA 94591

National Audubon Society new memberships and renewal dues support national conservation issues. A token amount for each new member is sent to the local chapter as a modest 'safety net' payment based on the total local chapter membership. National Members receive Audubon Magazine and receive our local NSAS newsletter, *Song Sparrow*. National Audubon Society Membership is \$20 for the first year.

To join the National Audubon Society, please remit \$20 and make your check payable to National Audubon Society and mail directly to National Audubon Society, Membership Department, PO Box 51005, Boulder, CO 80323-1005. You may also join or renew online at <http://www.audubon.org/audubon/>.



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