# JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2015



# 33rd Annual Bishop CBC



The 33rd annual Bishop Christmas Bird Count was held December 14, 2014, a nearly windless day, though a bit cloudy and chilly, with a low temperature of 21F and a high of 48F. An excellent turnout of 65 birders in 12 teams tallied 108 species with a total of 10,230 individual birds. Overall, bird numbers and diversity appear to have rebounded from the somewhat lower census in 2013, as shown in the table and graph below. However, waterfowl numbers were somewhat depressed, likely attributed to Crowley Reservoir being ice-free.

The count had some notable highlights. Four PURPLE FINCHES were new to the count. Purple Finch is exceptionally rare on the Eastside at any time of year and a challenge to separate from House and Cassin's Finches. These birds were photographed in a Bishop backyard feeding in a crabapple tree. A seasonally rare DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT and two WESTERN GREBES were at Pleasant Valley Reservoir. Round Valley had a light morph adult female ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK. We've come to expect ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRDS in small numbers in winter, but 11 set

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Photo: Carolyn Gann (continued on page 3)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"...this task before me was not one of building but of uncovering what was already there." Barbara J. Scott

Last week, I was going through emails and was pleased to find one which summarized the 2015 Bishop Christmas Bird Count. Kudos to Chris Howard and more than 60 volunteers who once again did a remarkable job in organizing and pulling off this enormous task.

While I was going over the results, I got to thinking about lists. I am a list person. If you were to go through the mish mash of my stuff, you would find a plethora of lists scrawled on anything from little scraps of paper to special "to do" forms. I am pretty sure that you would find lists of lists. Some of these commemorate what I have seen or found. These are like the results of the CBC; they respond to the question "what is out there". Others are statements of aspirations; goals or resolutions of varying practicality. Still others are simple reminders of things that need to be done.

At the same time that I am a list maker, I am the sort of person who is always asking "what is the point of this". This can set up a certain tension between the idea of making lists of things to do at the same time as questioning whether they should be done at all.

We try to keep track of the birds hat find their way into or over our yard. This has been an evolving process beginning with sporadic notations and leading to a system which now tries to track species and dates and behaviors. I guess this is a listing process which substitutes for the limitations of memory; but it is also a form of testimony. That was the original purpose of the Christmas Bird Count: to give testimony to the presence of birds rather than follow the existing custom of celebrating the season by shooting as many of them as possible. Over time, the count has demonstrated the rich variety of species and number and, along the way, began to point out what wasn't being counted. Some birds declined in number; some were not seen at all and other new birds appeared. The CBC has become the largest and longest running data set of natural observations in existence. As such it has become a valuable source of information for use in describing and analyzing ecological changes whether they be related to weather patterns,

temperature variations, land use or drought.

Our little yard list is of far less import, but keeping track of what passes our way is still a source of interesting questions and observations. These past few months we



have had three spotted towhees that have been hanging around, resting and feeding. These are by no means rare birds, but I enjoy their splash of color in the winter landscape. We also seem to have an increase in mockingbirds around here and I wonder if either or both have been breeding here this year. We have these birds because we have deliberately planted to create food and shelter sources for them.

Our plantscape hosted a flock of robins a month or so ago and I was darn happy to throw the party for them.

This yard is an amalgamation of what seems to me to have been an endless series of lists of tasks to do and materials to bring home. This is a completely different sort of list. I don't usually think of the chore list or shopping list as a big deal, but now I see that they are a part of a chain of contracts. The first link is an agreement between me and myself to research and figure out what needs to be done and commit to doing it. Putting something on a list validates its significance and the notion that I have agreed to get it done. At the end of this chain is a sort of contract between me and the towhees; if I want to see and be among these birds I have my own set of obligations. I look out the window and we have a flock of bushtits. I am happy to share this space with them. Life can feel a bit lonely as you get older, but it is not; not as long as I take care of business with my lists.

I hope that each of our members and friends will be able to make room on their 2015 lists for some Eastern Sierra Audubon activity. It might be a program or field trip. Perhaps you will be able to help a young student get their first look at a bird in binoculars and hear the softly exclaimed "wow". You might want to join us, maybe work at our booth at an event like the Owens Lake Bird Festival or the Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua. Or perhaps you want to start a list of your own of the birds you could see in a year by going on our monthly COSA walks. Whatever it is; mark it down and we will see you there. **Peter Pumphrey** 

## 33RD ANNUAL BISHOP CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

a high count for the CBC. Two COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD, less expected than Anna's, were in Wilkerson. A female YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER was photographed at the golf course. A



calling PACIFIC WREN was photographed in Birchim Canyon. WESTERN BLUEBIRDS were in scattered locations, mostly in and around town, unlike MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRDS, which tended to open country. VARIED THRUSH are normally

rare, but this fall has been an exceptional year for them throughout the west. So, a male at Plant 4 and a female behind the Forest Service/BLM building, though somewhat expected this vear, were beautiful finds. A female COMMON YELLOWTHROAT, quite rare in winter, was photographed along the Owens River below Chalk Bluff. An stunning immature male AMERICAN REDSTART was photographed during count week. A CHIPPING SPARROW, still retaining quite a bit of rufous in the crown, was at Millpond. Six LARK SPARROWS were a great December find. A tan-striped morph WHITE-THROATED SPARROW was a backyard stakeout in Meadowcreek. Two fancy DARK-EYED JUNCO races were found, a PINK-SIDED

JUNCO at Millpond, and a GRAY-HEADED JUNCO photographed at Starlite.



Photo: Tom Heindel

A photo highlight compilation can be found <u>here</u>.

Many, many thanks to all the talented and generous people who contribute to the Bishop CBC! Mark your 2015 calendar for the next Bishop CBC on Saturday, December 19, 2015.

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## OWENS LAKE BIRD FESTIVAL APRIL 24-25, 2015 LONE PINE, CA

The first ever Owens Lake Bird Festival is coming to Lone Pine April 24&25, 2015! It will be a celebration of the National Audubon Owens Lake Important Bird Area and the thousands of shorebirds that visit her each spring and fall.

Friday evening will begin with a reception at the Lone Pine Film Museum and the showing of Audubon's new video. "The Legacy of Owens Lake." Saturday there will be fieldtrips for beginners to experts to see and learn about the migration of birds between the hemispheres. In fact, there will be morning and afternoon outings led by our experts – with a wonderful lunch in between. Families are welcome.

During lunch there will be short talks on Owens Lake and her birds. A welcoming keynote by Michael Prather will begin the lunch break followed by talks from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power discussing their Master Project dust and wildlife work, Audubon-California's Andrea Jones talking about Audubon's Important Bird Areas and Dr. David Herbst explaining the Owens Lake food web.

The Owens Lake Bird Festival will conclude with a reception at the Interagency Visitor Center and exhibit by photographer Robin Black, "The Owens Lake Project."

Friends of the Inyo is hosting the Owens Lake Bird Festival. *Registration will open in early February and is limited to 120 people, so be ready*. With your registration, you may attend the Friday reception, participate in two Saturday field trips, have lunch with all of us, and attend the closing reception Saturday evening. For more information contact Michael Prather <u>mprather@lonepinetv.com</u>.

### FIELD REPORTS

Antelope Valley (Elena Espinosa)

We're seeing some nice groups of Ruddy Ducks and Common Loons at Topaz Lake along with our first sighting of an adult Bald Eagle for the season during our 'drive by birding'. We stay in our vehicles and get out when we see something to set up the spotting scope for. The raptors are plentiful with sightings of adult and immature Harriers along with Red Shouldered Hawks. Our birding here in the Antelope Valley is very conducive to anyone that has physical limitations.



Photo: Wikipedia

## Fall Migration in Inyo County 2014 (Tom & Jo Heindel)

Each season offers its own form of excitement for those of us who enjoy birds. Summer is the nesting season and finding species nesting in new locations is a reason to celebrate. Winter often brings birds further south or in larger or smaller numbers than expected causing discussions as to why the difference from past averages. Spring and fall are the seasons when neotropical migrants are on the move. One might assume that these migratory species take the same routes in spring as they do in fall. While many species do, a number do not. For example, Swainson's Thrush is very common as a spring migrant but rare in fall. Sabine's Gull is just the opposite; it is common in fall but there is only one spring record.

The Inyo County Fall Season Report was sent to the Southern California editors of North American Birds journal containing data provided by 27 observers who submitted over 120 images to substantiate their sightings. We have selected some of the most interesting to share in this synopsis.

Interesting waterfowl included three '<u>Aleutian' Cackling Geese</u> at Klondike Lake 27 October (R&NO, JLD) and a number of <u>Surf</u> <u>Scoters</u>: two females at Tinemaha Reservoir 20 October (C&RH), two juveniles at Klondike Lake (JLD, R&NO), and two adult males with a female at Diaz Lake 30 November (LBH, DVP). <u>Horned Grebes</u> are normally quite rare in fall so the six or seven birds (depending on whether one bird remain a week or the bird seen a week later at the same location was a new arrival), were more than expected.

A <u>Broad-winged Hawk</u>, casual in Inyo County, was well photographed and described at Furnace Creek Ranch 2 November (C&RH). Shorebirds of note included a <u>Sanderling</u> at Owens Lake 22 September (DJH) and 20+ <u>Baird's Sandpipers</u> at Owens Lake (DJH, KH-L) and Klondike Lake (T&JH) from late August to mid October. There were seven <u>Pectoral Sandpipers</u> at Owens Lake 26 October (KH-L) and a very rare <u>Red Phalarope</u> also at Owens Lake 22 September (DJH).

Although normally rare, and some falls absent, ten <u>Sabine's Gulls</u> were reported between 16 September and 4 October at Klondike Lake (T&JH), Owens Lake (KH-L, DJH), and Tinemaha Reservoir (C&RH). An Arctic Tern, casual in our area was well described at

Tinemaha Reservoir 12 October (SLS), a <u>White-winged Dove</u> flew over Tinemaha Reservoir 29 September (JLD), and a <u>Yellow-bellied</u> <u>Sapsucker</u>, a very rare fall visitor, was photographed at Shoshone 5 October (C&RH).

One of the most amazing events this fall was the discovery of a <u>Bell's Vireo</u>, an endangered species, in Bishop 28 November (DVP, LBH, JLD). The observers felt it was the southern CA subspecies *Vireo belli pusillus*, which is federally and state endangered. Bell's Vireo is a regular breeder in southeastern Inyo County but it is unknown



Photo: Tom Heindel



Photo: David Vander Pluym

## FIELD REPORTS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

## Fall Migration in Inyo County 2014 (Tom & Jo Heindel) continued

after mid September so this bird, this far north in late November, was a huge surprise. The observer knew it was unexpected and took some excellent images to validate his unbelievable claim.

A <u>Red-eyed Vireo</u> played hide-and-seek (he hid, we seeked) in a yard in Big Pine and finally paused briefly enough to be photographed 24 September (T&JH). Another amazing event was the unprecedented large numbers of <u>Varied Thrushes</u> recorded up and down Inyo County. Most falls pass without a single report...not this year! Several observers turned in multiple numbers maxing out at 20 birds on a hike from North Lake to Grass Lake, west of Bishop, 26 October (RJS, C&RH). The species was recorded in good numbers from Mono County south to San Bernardino County from mid October into December. Another surprise was two <u>Catbirds</u> appropriately recorded in Surprise Canyon, Panamint Range, in September and October (JEP).

Exciting warblers vied for attention with <u>Prothonotary Warblers</u> being photographed at Diaz Lake 23-24 September (MP, RDK) and in Lone Pine 26 September (MP, RDK). One <u>Virginia's Warbler</u> was at Shoshone 30 September (JEP) and two <u>Magnolia Warblers</u> were found with one bird at Birchim Canyon 11 October (J&DP) and another bird at Diaz Lake 13-16 October (KH-L, B&SS, RDK). Two <u>Blackpoll Warblers</u> were found with one bird at Lone Pine 29 September (RDK) and another bird at Shoshone 5-6 October (C&RH). Two different male <u>Black-throated Blue Warblers</u> were at Warm Springs in the Panamint Range 12 October and 19 October (JEP). A careful study of excellent images revealed they were different birds, not one bird remaining for a week.

Some surprising sparrows included one <u>Swamp Sparrow</u> at Stovepipe Wells 6 October (C&RH), which was the only one reported, although they are regular in fall. <u>White-throated Sparrows</u> outdid themselves this fall with a dozen reports! The only <u>Harris's Sparrow</u> was in Bishop 19-26 October (J&DP). Two interesting <u>Dark-eyed Juncos</u> were a <u>'Pink-sided'</u> subspecies in Big Pine 15 and 24 November (T&JH) and a <u>'Gray-headed'</u> subspecies in Tecopa 4 October (C&RH).

Two <u>Summer Tanagers</u> were photographed with a male at Glacier Lodge 8 September (T&JH) and a female at Panamint Springs 31 October (C&RH). One <u>Dickcissel</u> was at Furnace Creek Ranch 29 September (JEP) and a <u>Bobolink</u> was at Shoshone 30 September (JEP) and another at China Ranch 5 October (C&RH). Although more regular in Mono County, Inyo County had its fourth <u>Pine Grosbeak</u> record when a female was found near Long Lake in the Bishop Creek drainage in August (J&KW).

An event rivaling the Varied Thrush explosion was a group of up to nine <u>Purple Finches</u> hanging out in Bishop in late November (DVP, LBH) with a few remaining to mid December. The species is casual in Inyo County, recorded fewer than seven years out of a decade, and the unprecedented numbers of this event demanded a high level of proof. Many images were supplied by many observers documenting unequivocally that the unbelievable, in this case, was proven believable. But there were more...a female was photographed at Furnace Creek Ranch 2 November (C&RH) and another female was photographed at Warm Springs in the Panamint Range 12 and 19 October (JEP). <u>Evening Grosbeaks</u> were also reported in good numbers with 40 in the Bishop Creek burn area 11 October (B&SS), six birds in Big Pine 11 October (T&JH), and seven birds on the trail from North Lake to Grass Lake 26 October (C&RH).

It was a wonderful avian fall with the above only the tip of the iceberg. All these data would not have been known without the enthusiasm, energy, and dedication of a relatively small group of people. We publically acknowledge how much they have added, in perpetuity, to the avian history of Inyo County. Contributors alphabetized by first name: Bob & Susan (SLS) Steele, Chris & Rosie Howard, David Vander Pluym, Debbie House, James & Kay Wilson, Jim & Debby Parker, Jim Pike, Jon Dunn, Kelli Heindel-Levinson, Lauren Harter, Martin Powell, Ron & Nancy (NJO) Overholtz, Russell Kokx, and Tom & Jo Heindel.

See our photo gallery on page 6!

# JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2015

Name those birds!



Photo: Kelli Heindel-Levinson





Photo: Jim Pike



Photo: Debby Parker



Photo: Martin Powell



Photo: Lauren Harter

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## JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2015

#### BIRD OF THE MONTH: WESTERN BLUEBIRD

Western Bluebirds (*Sialia mexicana*) are rather small birds, with short legs, a short tail, and a short bill. Thy have bright blue wings and tail, with a rufous breast. They can have a grayish or blue throat.



## SANTIAGO ESCRUCERIA

The song is a mixture of three elements, although heard infrequently. Listen here: <u>http://</u> <u>birds.audubon.org/birds/western-bluebird</u>

Winters in many kinds of open or semi-open habitats, especially in pinyon-juniper, also in desert, farmland, others. Berries and small fruits are important in diet especially in winter; among those eaten are fruits of mistletoe, juniper, and elderberry.

In winter, small flocks of Western Bluebirds are often heard flying overhead or seen feeding on berries in trees. Sometimes, as when juniper woods have heavy berry crops, the bluebirds may gather by the hundreds.

In recent decades, numbers have declined over much of range. Provision of birdhouses probably has not kept pace with loss of natural nest sites.

#### A GUIDE TO THE TABLE: BIRDS AT RISK IN THE EASTERN SIERRA REGION

Audubon scientists used citizen science observations with climate models to predict how birds in the U.S. and Canada will react to climate change. They found that 314 species are climate threatened or endangered (T&E). To help localize these findings, they provided a list showing the climate T&E birds whose current climate range falls within Eastern Sierra Audubon's territory, which includes 104 species.

Column 1: Species Climate threatened and endangered species whose current climate range falls within your chapter's territory.

Column 2: Audubon Climate Status There are four possible classifications for each species. Below they are described and ranked from highest to lowest threat:

• ENDANGERED\_2: This species has been modeled both during the CBC and BBS, and it's considered climate endangered during both seasons

- **ENDANGERED\_1:** This species is considered climate endangered during one season (CBC or BBS)
- THREATENED\_2: This species has been modeled both during the CBC and BBS, and it's considered climate threatened during both seasons
- **THREATENED\_1:** This species is considered climate threatened during one season (CBC or BBS)
- **Climate endangered** means the species could lose at least half of its current climate range by the year 2050, with no chance to make it up elsewhere
- Climate threatened means the species could lose at least half of its current climate range by the year 2080, with the chance to make up that loss in expanded climatic range

Column 3: BBS Sensitivity

Climate sensitivity during the breeding season (BBS). See above for definitions of climate endangered and climate threatened.

Column 4: CBC Sensitivity Climate sensitivity during the winter (CBC). See above for definitions of climate endangered and climate threatened.

Column 5: Season(s) Present Displays the season(s) that the species' core climate range falls within your chapter's territory, where BBS = breeding season and CBC = winter. An asterisk (\*) is used to indicate that the species is climate stable during the breeding season (BBS), and a plus sign (+) is used to indicate that the species is climate stable during the winter (CBC). See the list <u>HERE</u>

## Katie Krieger

Environmental Engineer Audubon Society

## JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2015

# VOLUME33 NUMBER 3

## FEBRUARY PROGRAM: RAPTORS OF THE EASTERN SIERRA

## **RON ORITI**

Join us for our February program: Raptors of the Eastern Sierra on February 4, 2015 at 7 pm at the USFS/BLM complex on West Line Street in Bishop.

There are 17 different raptors that typically are found in the eastern Sierra. Ron will cover the basics of each species - their habits, and the differences between the male, female, and immature, but the highlight of the presentation will be the wonderful photos of each species. Ron has many great photos of 16 of the 17 species and will be showing as many of those photos as we have time for. You will love seeing these raptors up close.

Ron Oriti is a retired Planetarium Director and astronomy teacher. He was a research assistant in meteoritics at UCLA, and has co-authored a textbook on astronomy for beginning colleges students. His love of nature, and the outdoors brought him to the Eastern Sierra. With the aid of the digital camera he has specialized in photographing local landscapes,wildflowers, dragonflies, butterflies, lizards, raptors, and other birds.



Broad-winged Hawk photo: Chris Howard

# CALENDAR

Saturday, January 10:	COSA monthly walk
	8:30 am BLM/USFS West Line Street, Bishop
Sundays, weekly:	Antelope Valley / Topaz Bird Walks
	9:00 am Walker Country Store
Wednesday, February 4:	Audubon Raptor Program
	7 pm BLM/USFS West Line Street, Bishop
Saturday, February 14:	COSA monthly walk
	8:30 am BLM/USFS West Line Street, Bishop
February 13-16:	Great Backyard Bird Count
	http://gbbc.birdcount.org/
Saturday, February 28:	Winter Wander with Tom & Jo Heindel
	8:00 am Glacier View Campground, Big Pine



## NEWS

Have you checked out AudubonAdventures.org, the ever-growing, ever-improving website for all things *Audubon Adventures?* The site now features "Wild about Birds." The first of three new topics for the 2014-15 school year, "Wild about Birds" is focused on the science of birds, including their characteristics and adaptations, habitat needs, migration, and life cycles. This is the first full season of our all-digital format. Let us know what you think. For more information contact Bonnie Godfrey.

# CONTRIBUTIONS

#### MIDNIGHT OWL

cold midnight crackles with starfire windless trees guard the white earth

warmed by soft feathers my toes grip a barren branch as I wait

a deer mouse dances lightly on dead leaves singing of sun-baked seeds and summer

> hunger goads sharp as ice I launch on silent wings glide on frozen air

sharp talons slice through space embrace flesh that will sustain me

from the earth I rise to my perch a fledgling wind ruffles my feathers and I wait

Cindy Kamler

# 40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS

The 40th annual conference of Western Field Ornithologists will be held in Montana, marking the first time for the state. Open to all interested birders, the event is scheduled to highlight the peak of bird activity. Field trips will visit a variety of habitats from the high mountains (Black Rosy-Finch) to the grasslands (Sprague's Pipits). One can see courting McCown's and Chestnut-collared Longspurs in their finest plumage, along with Upland Sandpipers and Lark Buntings. Other field trips will take you to the scenic mountains for montane specialties or along the riparian corridors of the Yellowstone River alive with exciting birds. History buffs will delight in viewing the Little Bighorn Battlefield where Custer saw his last Sharp-tailed Grouse.

There will be workshops on field identification of sparrows (Jon Dunn) and flycatchers (Dan Casey), natural history of owls (Denver Holt), bird sound identification (Nathan Pieplow), raptors (Steve Hoffman), and more. Friday and Saturday afternoon science sessions will update you on the most current avian research from the region and the Saturday evening banquet will feature a keynote address by Stephen Dinsmore on Mountain Plovers. Ed Harper and Nathan Pieplow will again offer their ever-popular sessions on bird ID by sight and sound.

Registration for the conference will open in February 2015 with the exact date to be announced via a future WFO News email. If you are NOT currently on our electronic mailing list, please send an email to <u>erpfromca@aol.com</u>, include your full name along with city and state of residence, and we'll put you on. WFO members are able to register for our conferences at a reduced rate and have early access to registration. If you are not currently a WFO member, you can join at (<u>https://www.westernfieldornithologists.org/join.php</u>).

# INYO NATIONAL FOREST HOSTS SIERRA CASCADE DIALOGUE

The U.S. Forest Service is hosting a daylong workshop focused on how monitoring applies to the management of National Forests in California. This public event is part of the Sierra Cascades Dialog Sessions, which are one way the Forest Service engages the public on important issues across the Sierra Nevada and the Cascades.

Workshop attendees will discuss needs, trends and options for monitoring forest health and productivity to support adaptive management of forests. Additionally, participants will consider which indicators are useful for monitoring social, economic and environmental trends. There will also be time to discuss possible opportunities for partnering with the Forest Service on monitoring programs.

The Dialog will take place Thursday, January 22, 2015, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and may be attended at two locations:



Photo: David Van Pluym

Sacrament Location: Lions Gate Hotel, 3410 Westover Street, North Highlands, CA 95652 Register online at <u>www.cce.csus.edu/conferences/webreg/Register\_scds13.cfm?CID=1794</u>

Bishop (satellite location): Inyo National Forest Service, 351 Pacu Lane, Bishop, CA 93514 Register with Deb Schweizer at 760-873-2427 or debraaschweizer@fs.fed.us

Since November 2010, the Forest Service has hosted 13 Sierra Cascades Dialog sessions. Recent Dialog topics have focused on issues such as social and economic conditions in rural forest communities, recreation, water, and wildland fire.

For more information about this or other Sierra Cascade Dialog Sessions, please contact Deb Whitall, U.S. Forest Service, 707-562-8823 <u>dwhitall@fs.fed.us</u> or log on to: <u>http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r5/</u> workingtogether/?cid=STELPRDB5349218

# FIELD TRIPS

Tom and Jo Heindel annually lead a popular auto excursion between Klondike Lake and Tinemaha Reservoir. Mountain Bluebirds, Bald Eagles, bobcat, elk, owls, creepers, mergansers, sparrows and swans – are examples of species which have turned up on past tours. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Glacier View Campground off U.S. 395 just north of Big Pine. Bring water, snacks, binoculars, scopes. The outing should end mid-day. For more information please call the leaders at 760-938-2764.



Photo: Tom & Jo Heindel

# BOARD MEMBERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Chapter Officers: President: Peter Pumphrey (872-7846) Vice-President: Jenny Richardson (920-8541) Secretary: Ann Hoffmann (933-2318) Treasurer: Lacey Greene(920-3606) Other Board Members: Bart Godett(938-2959) Jenny Richardson(920-8541) Maggie Riley (258-9694) Roberta Lagomarsini (872-7846) Santiago Escruceria Hillary Behr (603-953-3690) Paul McFarland Vickie Taton

You can find a list of our current ESAS Board Members and Committee Chairs <u>here</u>.



Join us on Facebook!

# MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

I'm pleased to join the Board of ESAS and to take over the excellent newsletter. Maggie chose me because she knows I've been working with image editing and layout software for years, not because of my birding expertise! So I'll be learning as I work on each edition, and I'm loving all the wonderful content you send in.

Our next newsletter deadline will be **February 15th** for the March-April issue, and you are always



Photo: Chris Howard

welcome to send submissions for future newsletters and also the monthly email at any time before the deadline.

All of our content is supplied by our awesome members... if you have anything to share for newsletter publication, whether an article, a news item, update, correction, poem, essay, artwork, photo, field trip report, neat birding experience, letter, etc, please send it, along with any comments or suggestions, to the <u>newsletter editor</u>. We'd love to hear from you! Thanks for reading, and happy birding!

Vickie Taton, Editor

# MEMBERSHIP

As the new Membership Chair for Eastern Sierra Audubon, I would like to acknowledge the wonderful contributions and support from the following individuals as either renewing local membership or as a new member (September to December 2014). You have all taken the time and energy to contact Eastern Sierra Audubon. Thank you for the support of your local donation. Ann Hoffmann, Membership Chair. Please contact me at <u>hoffmann@qnet.com</u> or 760-933-2318, if you have concerns or questions.

Walt and Sandy Bates Hillary Behr Joan Collignon Elena Espinosa Karen Ferrell-Ingram and Stephen Ingram Jora Fogg Roger DeHart Lacey Greene Tom and Rosanne Higley Carolyn Honer Tom and Julie Anne Hopkins Fran Hunt Carmen Kappos Steve McLaughlin and Jan Bowers Joel and Patti Parker Dennis and Barbara Phillips Maggie Riley Chris Rispaud Coco Sly Pamela Stones Henry Stoutz Vickie Taton Cedrik and Collette Zemitis

If you would like to join or renew and help support Eastern Sierra Audubon, there are two ways you can do it:

Join as a National Audubon Society Member, designating ESAS as your chapter affiliation (your zip code will associate you with the chapter nearest you). Includes Audubon Magazine subscription. This is \$20 for the first year, and goes up to \$35 annually thereafter.

Join as an ESAS Chapter-only Member for \$20 per year. 100% of your donation stays here in the Eastern Sierra this way. Your chapter membership is a way to give back, and show your appreciation for all that ESAS does, and to help support our mission locally. Your membership helps pay for scholarships, programs, special events, education programs, research, and more.

THANK YOU for your support!

Click here for a membership form to join or renew, or pick up a membership form at any Audubon event!