

Computer Program until Brochure is ready...DRAFT Version!!

Welcome to the 9th Annual Snow Goose Festival of the Pacific Flyway

Stretching from the Bering Strait off the coast of Alaska to the steeps of Patagonia in South America, the Pacific Flyway ranks as one of the greatest migratory pathways in the entire world. Millions of birds representing hundreds of species use this great avian highway each year. Nowhere is this abundance of wildlife more accessible than right here in the Northern Sacramento Valley. With an ideal combination of mild winter weather, abundant food and rich quantities of water, the area attracts a huge wintering population of waterfowl and raptors. A local favorite among these is the majestic Snow Goose. With the estimated overall population of Snow Geese exceeding 5 million, as many as one and a half million use the Pacific Flyway. Tens of thousands of these will winter right here in our own backyard. So it is with these things in mind that we once again invite you to come and rediscover this magnificent spectacle of nature at the *9th Annual Snow Goose Festival*.

This year the variety of experiences to choose from is as varied as the tastes of the many people involved. If your interest lies in the outdoors, select one or more of the over 40 birding and wildlife field trips visiting every important region of the area. Serious birders will take note of our Big Birding Day on Friday and Valley Wetlands and Wintering Waterbirds on Saturday. If indoor wildlife presentations, activities and workshops are more your style, we have two full days of events to choose from. Along with many free *Junior Naturalist Activities* there will be over 30 displays and vendors at the Chico Masonic Family Center. For those with a taste for the arts, our *Uptown-Downtown Wildlife Art Exhibit*, running from January 18 to February 3, will more than satisfy. Without a doubt, everyone will want to attend the *Gathering of Wings Banquet and Silent Auction* with featured keynote speaker Kenn Kaufman.

It is our mission that unites and energizes all of the many volunteers, artists, trip leaders, workshop presenters, educators, community members and sponsors involved with the Snow Goose Festival. We strive to increase public awareness, understanding, appreciation and conservation of the incredible wildlife and related habitats of the Northern Sacramento Valley. So come join with us and let's make the *9th Annual Snow Goose Festival* the best and most successful festival ever.

Registration:

Please peruse our schedule of events (evening programs, field trips and workshops). Starting on December 3, 2007, participants can register online at www.snowgoosefestival.org. This is a quick and easy process that saves us time in the office. The site also has **full trip descriptions**, sponsorship links, maps and other useful information. You can also fill out the registration form in the middle of this brochure (or download from our website) and mail or fax it to us with your total payment by Tuesday, January 22, 2008. **New this year is an “at the door” charge for participants not reserving their space in advance.**

If you fax in your registration form, you will need to pay by credit card. Please don't forget to fax the **front** and **back** of the registration form. Confirmation (via e-mail, fax, mail or phone) will be made in the timeliest manner possible. **Please read your program description to determine the location that you are first arriving at. Your nametag will be at that first location.**

Carpooling:

Carpooling is strongly encouraged when traveling to the Chico Masonic Family Center (CMFC). Parking is extremely limited with participants going on field trips and also those who wish to visit the

exhibits and workshops throughout the day. If weather permits, walking and/or riding a bike to the CMFC is most appreciated.

A special note about Field Trips:

Please arrive at the location indicated **30 minutes prior** to your scheduled event. This will allow us time to check you in and ensure the trip leaves promptly. We ask that you follow your field trip leader from the meeting location to the final destination. Anyone arriving after the field trip leader has left may not be able to join the group. All field trips will be limited to the first 20 reservations. After that, a waiting list will be generated by calling our office. Walk-in registration may be available for some events during the weekend of the Festival, but cannot be guaranteed, and there will be an “at the door” charge.

Weather may change a trip's itinerary, but most trips will be conducted rain or shine. The weather in the valley during January is variable. It is generally cold and sometimes rainy, with daytime highs ranging from 50°-65°F.

Be sure to bring the following on your field trips: rain gear, waterproof footwear, layered clothing, binoculars, camera, field identification guide, water and snack or lunch as needed. Please also check out the “Tips & Etiquette” section on page ____ to help you enjoy your day to the fullest.

Legend:

The following rating system for field trips will give you an idea for the rigors involved.

1-mostly birding by car and/or easy walking

2-walking, could involve distance but largely flat

3-more vigorous hiking, some elevation gain/loss

4-a true adventure trip, lots of driving and hiking

 Wheelchair Accessible

A\$ = Adult Price

Y\$ = Youth Price

Thank you!

Snow Goose Festival Steering Committee

Contact information:

Phone: (530) 345-1865

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P.O. Box 1063

Chico, CA 95927-1063

Email: info@snowgoosefestival.org

Website: www.snowgoosefestival.org

On Going Free Events & Activities

Chico Masonic Family Center

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Live Reptiles!

(Saturday, January 26th, 10:00 am to noon, CMFC)

Touch a snake or get close to a lizard! Join Department of Fish and Game's Steve Brightwell as he shares very interesting facts about some of Butte County's most amazing reptiles.

Live Raptors - Hawks, Owls and Falcons!

(Saturday, January 26th, 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm, CMFC)

Meet "Checkers" a Great Horned Owl and "Otis" a Screech Owl along with hawks and falcons as Marilyn and Andy share some fascinating facts, unique habits and curious myths about these beautiful birds of prey.

Optics Demo

(Saturday, January 26th, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm, CMFC)

Learn the basics about Binoculars and Spotting Scopes for bird watching! What do the numbers mean? Isn't higher power always better? This will be a "show and tell" discussion about the differences in size, quality, and construction of optics so that you can make a good choice for your needs and budget. Sample optics will be available from numerous manufacturers to illustrate. Marilyn Rose from "Out of this World" will have sample optics from numerous manufacturers to illustrate.

Children's Duck Calling Class and Competition

(Sunday, January 27th, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, CMFC)

Local duck callers will be available for training and coaching before the contest. This is for youth up to 16 years old. Calls will be available for youths.

Meet Smokey the Bear and the Blue Goose!

(Saturday – Sunday, CMFC)

Smokey the Bear and the National Wildlife Refuge's Blue Goose will be visiting at various times courtesy of the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge. Also be sure to visit the US Fish & Wildlife Service fire safety exhibit booth.

Federal Junior Duck Stamp Display!

(Saturday – Sunday, CMFC)

All 100 California winners from nearly 2,000 entries, will be on display. Don't forget to see the Chico winners.

Junior Naturalist Activities!

(Saturday, January 26th, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, CMFC)

(Sunday, January 27th, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, CMFC)

Naturalists of all ages are invited to learn bird identification, make a birdcall and much more! Nature crafts and other special activities will be taking place throughout the weekend! Get banded like a bird! Kids will be banded like a bird and learn firsthand what the experience is like.

Exhibits Galore!

(Saturday, January 26th, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, CMFC)

(Sunday, January 27th, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, CMFC)

Displays by State, Federal and Non-profit organizations plus related vendors throughout the weekend.

The Maze of Maps

(Saturday – Sunday, CMFC Hallway)

This year we will feature an eclectic assortment of interesting maps from around the North Valley and beyond. Get the bird's eye view of our local landscape features. Stroll through and let your curiosity take you on a tour.

Gathering of Wings

Banquet & Silent Auction

Saturday, January 26th

5:30 pm - 10:00 pm

Bell Memorial Union – Auditorium

California State University, Chico

Corner of 2nd Street and Chestnut Street, Chico, CA

Cost per Person: \$35, \$20 for youth (17 years and younger) and students with ID

Beer & Wine (No Host)

Free Parking on weekends at Chico State's parking structure and on lots across the street from BMU.

Featured Speaker

Kenn Kaufman

Birder, Naturalist, Author, Public Speaker, Photographer

“Birds and the Undiscovered World”

The advances of modern science, and the reality of instant global communication, may lead us to assume that everything in our world is well known. But this is an illusion: in fact, the unknown is all around us, beginning right outside our doors. A close look at the world of birds and nature is enough to remind us that we are still surrounded by fascinating mysteries. Kenn Kaufman will draw on the adventures of his own life to talk about the unknown realms of nature, the potential for discovery, and the power of personal observation to rekindle our sense of wonder.

Special book signing by Kenn Kaufman from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm prior to the dinner.

Silent Auction & Raffle!

Silent Auction & Raffle!

Begins at 5:30 pm

The Silent Auction tables will include a variety of exquisite items including works of art, wine and services. In addition to the auction items, raffle tickets for the Owl Night Out and Kayaking Trip will be available. Your financial participation directly affects our ability to ensure that the Snow Goose Festival remains the North State's premier birding event, so enjoy the evening bidding for an event that you love. You won't be disappointed!

Two Raffles!!

1 ticket \$5

5 tickets \$20

Owl Night Out

You and 5 of your friends can learn about the migratory ecology of the Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) in the Sierra Nevada foothills with licensed bird bander Dawn Garcia and apprentice banders Mike Fisher and Julie Nelson. Guests will observe and may assist with data collection, banding, and release of the petite owls. The banding will be conducted at the Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve where Dawn is researching owl migration, now in its 3rd season. A specific date between October 15 and November 15, 2008 will be arranged between the parties as the owl migration season approaches.

Kayak Trip

You and 3 others can join Jennifer Patten, Vice President of Altacal Audubon Society as you kayak, bird and picnic on the beautiful Forebay in Oroville. Vests, paddles, kayaks and food will be provided. A date will be determined in 2008.

Tickets can be purchased at the Snow Goose Festival booth at the Chico's Saturday Farmers Market in January and during the Festival.

Drawing will be held at the close of the festival on Sunday, January 27. You need not be present to win.

Proceeds from the raffle and silent auction will go towards the continued support of the Snow Goose Festival.

Thank you!

Free Parking on weekends at Chico State's parking structure and on lots across the street from BMU.

Uptown-Downtown Wildlife Art Exhibit & Reception

Uptown-Downtown Wildlife Art Exhibit

Friday, January 18 - Sunday, February 3

Avenue 9 Gallery Hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 12 – 4 pm

All Fired Up! Gallery and Ceramic Art Center Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 10 – 6 pm, Saturday 11 – 4:30 pm

Avenue 9 Gallery

180 E. 9th Ave.

Uptown Chico

530-879-1821

www.avenue9gallery.com

All Fired Up! Gallery and Ceramic Art Center

830 Broadway

Downtown Chico

530-894-5227

www.allfiredupchico.com

Feast your eyes upon wonderful works of wildlife art from local artists working in a variety of media, including metal sculpture, earthenware, glass, oils, water color, acrylics, colored pencil, mixed media, photography, silk painting, and woodcarving. Enjoy the arts of Judith Carter, Glen Cowan, Douglas Haight, Janice Hofmann, Sten Hoiland, Bruce King, Vic Kronberg, Bob Langan, Kathleen Lawrence-Davis, Tanya Mead-Mullen, Michael Nesbit, Bill Peters, Mick Schwartz, Michael Simpson, and River Wolf.

Co-hosted this year by Avenue 9 Gallery and All Fired Up! Gallery and Ceramic Art Center, our special Snow Goose Festival art venue will be showing for two weeks. Get a closer look and purchase these fine art specimens from January 18 through February 3 during gallery open hours.

“Uptown-Downtown” Wildlife Art Reception
Avenue 9 Gallery & All Fired Up! Gallery and Ceramic Art Center
Friday, January 25, 2007
5:30 - 8:30 pm

Pre-Registration Cost: \$15 adult, \$10 youth,

At the Door Cost: \$20 adult, \$15 youth

Celebrate with us and see wonderful works of art exhibited by many talented wildlife and landscape artists from our region. Bring a friend and **meet the artists**, along with fellow festival participants, presenters and field trip leaders at both galleries on Friday January 25th from 5:30 - 8:30 pm while feasting on delectable hors d’oeuvres catered by **Marianne Brenner**. Enjoy a spectacular generous assortment of foods that are grown and produced in the fertile Sacramento Valley. The evening venue includes live music, great food, splendid conversations, woodcarving and a no host bar.

Leave your car behind and enjoy our courtesy “Uptown-Downtown” free trolley rides between the art reception venues every half hour!

Thursday, January 24th
Pre-Festival Field Trip

Owl Banding and Survey
Meet at Chico Park and Ride

Thursday

5:30 pm – 9 pm

This is a rare chance to observe an owl research project. We will use mist nets and use an audio lure to try and catch Northern Saw-whet Owls and Western Screech-Owls. We also hope to detect Northern Pygmy and Great Horned Owls by their calls. A\$20 – Y\$7 Level 2

Leaders: Dawn Garcia, Mike Fisher and Julie Nelson

Friday, January 25th
Field Trips

Big Birding Day Fri 6:30 am-5:00pm

For the Serious Birder

Meet at Chico Park-n-Ride

Brad and Mike will take you to Gray Lodge Wildlife Area, rice fields of Glenn and Butte counties, Llano Seco units, Lake Oroville, Feather River, Chico Waste Water Treatment Plant and Woodson Bridge. This trip is most appropriate for intermediate to advance birders. Bring a good road map, lunch, water and a walkie talkie if you have them. Limit 10 people. A\$20 – Y\$7 Level 3

Field Trip Leaders: Brad Stovall and Mike Skram



Sutter Buttes Hike – Dean Ranch

Fri 7:30 am – 4 pm

Meet at the Waffle Shop in Live Oak

Visit the historic 100-year-old Dean Cattle Ranch with a three-mile walk. This trip will focus primarily on bird watching with hopes of seeing Golden Eagles, Phainopeplas and Rufous-crowned Sparrows so bring binoculars along with lunch and water. Limit 15 people. A\$45 – Y\$40 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Peter Sands

Waterfowl Fly-Off Photo Opportunity

Fri 12:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Visiting birding spots along the way to the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge before arriving to see tens of thousands of birds leave the refuge all at once. Dress warmly. Photographers are welcome and encouraged to bring their equipment. A\$20 Level 2

Field trip leader: Steve Emmons

Family Owl Prowl

Fri 7 pm – 8:30 pm

Meet at the Chico Creek Nature Center

This family-oriented field trip offers a unique glimpse into the amazing nocturnal world of owls. The Prowl, a leisurely hike into Bidwell Park, will start and end at the Chico Creek Nature Center. Dress warm and bring a flashlight. A\$10 – Y\$5 Level 1

Field Trip Leader: Scott Toricelli

Saturday, January 26th
Field Trips

Valley Wetlands and Wintering Waterbirds Sat 6:30 am – 4:30pm

For the Serious Birder

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Travel the back-roads of Chico, Llano Seco Viewing Platform, Sacramento River NWR and the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area. Along with **Snow Geese** we hope to see a variety of waterfowl, raptors, and many other wetland species. This trip is most appropriate for intermediate to advance birders. Bring lunch, water, binoculars, and field guide. A\$20 Level 4

Field Trip Leader: Jay Bogiatto

Refuge to Refuge – Snow Geese Galore!

Sat 7 am - 5 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Visit two premier Sacramento Valley wildlife refuges, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Sacramento NWR and CA Dept. of Fish and Game Gray Lodge Wildlife Area. We will see huge flocks of **Snow Geese** and waterfowl along with cranes, ibis, and a variety of raptors. A "honker meal" including sandwich, chips, cookie and drink can be purchased for \$5.00 the morning of this tour. A\$20 – Y\$7 Level 2

Field Trip Leader: Skip Augur

Birding Lema Ranch in Redding

Sat 7:30 am – 2:30 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Lema Ranch features four ponds set in an oak savannah landscape. Expect close-up views of dabbling ducks, Common Moorhens, herons and wintering upland birds. This trip is designed for the intermediate birder but everyone is welcome. Bring binoculars, water and lunch. A\$20 – Y\$7 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Bill Oliver

Sutter Buttes – Dean Ranch

Sat 8 am - 4 pm

Meet at Waffle Shop in Live Oak

Visit Dean Ranch in the center of the Buttes where we will take a three-mile gentle hillside walk. Possibly see such gems as the mountain bluebird, varied thrush, Lewis's woodpecker, golden eagle, and ferruginous hawk, winter sparrows, and with luck, geese or swans. Birding will be the main focus so be sure to bring binoculars as well as lunch and water. A\$45 - Y\$40 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Don Schmoldt

Llano Seco Viewing Platform – Dabbling, Diving & Soaring

Sat 8 am – noon

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Visit the viewing platforms at the Llano Seco Unit of the Sacramento River NWR. This is an ideal location for viewing a large number geese, ducks and hawks in one location! This is definitely a birding hot spot! (Repeats on Sunday.) A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leaders: Mary Muchowski and Mike Skram

Tundra Swans in District 10

Sat 8 am – 12:30 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Drive from Chico to Marysville and stop at District 10 where traditionally hundreds of large tundra swans can be seen. This trip offers very limited hiking as viewing will be mainly from the sides of backcountry roads. Bring binoculars and spotting scopes if you have them. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 1
Field Trip Leader: Dale Whitmore

Sutter Buttes - Peace Valley Sat 8 am - 4 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Explore Peace Valley and learn the interesting geological process and history that formed this Valley. Please wear comfortable walking shoes or boots and bring a sack lunch and beverage. Participants must be in good hiking shape. Trip repeated on Sunday. A\$45 – Y\$40 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Ranger Tim Davis

Butte College Wildlife Refuge & Natural Area Sat 8:30 am – noon

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Here's your chance to find out about the Butte College Wildlife Refuge. This hidden gem on campus has a streamside forest, wetlands and grasslands that offer a chance to observe many bird species. If time permits, we will bird into the canyons and buttes in the upper campus under intact blue oak woodlands adjoining Tuscan Formation cliff faces. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2 -3

Trip Leader: Mike Williams

Vina Plains to Pine Creek & the River Sat 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Join Joe and Dawit at The Nature Conservancy's Vina Plains Preserve and observe winter plants and animals of unique vernal pool ecosystems. Next, travel to the Pine Creek Unit of Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge to see a riparian habitat restoration project and learn why it is critical for the survival of Chinook salmon, migratory songbirds, and endangered species. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leaders: Joe Silveira and Dawit Zeleke

Rancho Esquon Sat 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Along the roadways bordering Rancho Esquon see **Snow Geese**, White-fronted Geese and Sandhill Cranes right from your vehicle! Upon arrival at Rancho Esquon we will visit the viewing platform where you will see a high concentration of ducks, really a whole bunch! We will also be visiting the egg hatching facility too. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leader: Phil Johnson

Dye Creek Preserve Sat 8:45 am – 2 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Visit the rugged Dye Creek Preserve in the Lassen Foothill region of eastern Tehama County. Weather conditions will decide if we hike into Dye Creek Canyon Expect to see birds common in oak woodlands. Bring lunch and drink. A\$20 – Y\$7 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: The Nature Conservancy Staff

Beginning Birding for Kids Sat 9 am – 10:30 am

Meet at the Chico Creek Nature Center

What a wondrous thing to view the world of birds through a child's eyes! This workshop/field trip will focus on the basics of birding including bird anatomy and basic identification techniques. Then venture into Bidwell Park and practice your new skills on the wild birds of the park. Bring field guides

and binoculars if you have them. Ages 7 to 12. Y\$5 Level 1

Field Trip Leader: Liam and Scott Huber

Book Family Farm

Sat 9 am – noon

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

The Book Family Farm is nestled in-between hundreds of acres of rice fields. With its rice fields and the crops, the Book Family Farm has become a sanctuary to large numbers of wildlife. Sandhill Cranes are frequent winter visitors. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leader: Dan McKnight

Birds of Prey and Bird-Friendly Gardening at Turtle Bay Sat 9 am – noon

Meet at Turtle Bay (9:00am) or Chico Masonic Family Center (7:15am carpool)

Learn about raptors of the North State and bird-friendly gardening from the expert staff at Turtle Bay Exploration Park in Redding. The first portion of this day includes a talk about the birds of prey at Turtle Bay, including the magnificent Turkey Vulture and majestic Golden Eagle. After, choose from one of two programs - bird-friendly gardening, presented by expert staff from the McConnell Arboretum & Gardens at Turtle Bay, or a history of Turtle Bay Program. Cost includes Park admission. Please allow for 90 minutes for driving time. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 1

Field Trip Leader: Sharon Dale

Butte Creek Birding and Mist Net Demonstration 9 am – 1:30 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Travel to the Butte Creek Ecological Preserve and view diverse riparian and upland habitat which is a magnet for herons, kingfishers, bald eagles, woodpeckers, finches and sparrows. Next visit a bird banding station to see mist nets set up to band birds, take various measurements, record data and release the birds back into the wild. The banding demonstration is weather dependent (no rain or high winds). Bring binoculars. A\$20 – Y\$7 Level 3

Field Trip Leaders: Jackson Shedd, Dawn Garcia, Co-leaders Mike Fisher, and Julie Nelson

Sacramento River Management Area

Sat 10 am - 2 pm

Meet at Ide Adobe State Park in Red Bluff

We will see a variety of upland habitats as well as spectacular scenic vistas of the Sacramento River and surrounding watershed lands. Wildlife viewing opportunities include wetland, upland and neo-tropical birds as well as deer and other mammals. Please wear sturdy hiking shoes or boots and bring a sack lunch and water. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Kelly Williams

Practicing the Principles of Bird Identification Sat 10:30am – 12:30pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Go into the field with Kenn Kaufman and practice the principles and skills that you just learned in his morning workshop. Kenn will take you to one of Chico's nearby birding hot spots for a demonstration of his bird identification techniques. **Must attend Principles and Pitfalls of Bird Identification**

Workshop held Saturday 9:00 am – 10:00 am. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leader: Kenn Kaufman

Beginning Birdwatching with Field Trip Sat 12:30 pm – 3 pm

Meet at Chico Creek Nature Center

It's been said, "The best birdwatcher is another bird." This presentation is a combination of classroom study and fieldwork - making it a must for anyone wanting to learn more about birding. After our workshop we'll head into the park and use our newly acquired birding skills. Bring binoculars if you have them! A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 1

Leader: Roger Lederer

Birding in Upper Bidwell Park Sat 12:30 pm – 4 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

People in the Chico area are so lucky to have one of the largest city owned parks in the United States right in their backyards. After a short carpool to Horseshoe Lake we will walk up the Yahi trail, trek the upper north side of the canyon and hike the riparian corridor of Upper Park. These areas have some of the best birding in Bidwell Park. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Steve King

Lundberg Family Farms Sat 1 pm - 4 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Tour the farm famous for its specialty rice products and for attracting wildlife to its organic fields. Witness first-hand how valley farm practices, and ecological farming in particular can benefit migratory and non-migratory bird populations of the Pacific Flyway. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 1

Field Trip Leader: Lundberg Family Farms Staff

Del Rio Wildland Preserve Sat 1 pm – 4:30 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

In 2003 the Del Rio Preserve was planted with native grasses, riparian trees and shrubs. Come see and learn about this success story of habitat restoration. Our two mile hike will lead us into the interior of the Preserve where we can expect to see most of the upland birds. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Tom Griggs

Massa Organic Farms Sat 1:15 pm- 4 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Here's a chance to visit an organic rice farm where history, wildlife conservation, organic farming and activism all come together. See oak trees, sandhill cranes, wood ducks, hawks and owls on this family farm. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leader: Greg Massa

Birding the Genetic Resource Center Sat 1:15 pm- 4 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

This well kept secret is one of Chico's birding hot spots. Over 200 species of birds can be found here. Enjoy birding at this unique Center. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leaders: Anna-Lise Feenstra and Gary Norcross

Rancho Esquon Sat 1:15 pm - 4:30 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

This is a repeat of the morning trip. Please see Saturday morning's Rancho Esquon trip description. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leader: Herman Gray and Bruce Webb

Saturday, January 26th Presentations/Workshops

Principles and Pitfalls of Bird Identification Sat 9 am – 10:00 am

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

This workshop is aimed at exploring principles and pitfalls of birding. It will enhance your understanding of what you see in the field and improve your ability to identify all birds. This workshop is a pre-requisite to attending Kenn's *Practicing the Principles and Pitfalls of Bird Identification* field trip (requires separate registration) held immediately after this workshop. A\$10 – Y\$5

Presenter: Kenn Kaufman

Children's Raptor Program Sat 10:30 am - noon

Meet at the Chico Creek Nature Center

Kids, come see raptors up close! Learn exactly what a raptor is and other fun facts about them. This will include a short hike into the Park. Kids will also build and paint a wooden birdhouse! Small children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult. Y\$2

Presenter: Chico Creek Nature Center

Slow Food: How It's Grown and How to Enjoy It! Sat 10:30 am - noon

A group of local farmers and ranchers, in conjunction with the local Slow Food convivial, have joined together to celebrate and promote the unique and wonderful food that our area produces. Find out how individual operations evoke the uniqueness of our climate in their products. A\$5 – Y\$2

Presenter: Tyler Dawley

Birds of Sierra Valley and Yuba Pass Sat 10:30 am – noon

In a relatively short distance between Sierra City to Sierra Valley you will experience a variety of habitats that support bird species like Western Tanager, Evening Grosbeak, Black-backed & Lewis' Woodpecker, Calliope Hummingbird, Townsend's Solitaire and Black Tern. Mac will give you a snapshot of these exciting Sierran birds along with suggestions for identifying the more difficult to identify species. A\$5 – Y\$2

Presenter: Mac McCormick

All Those White Geese! Snow Goose Workshop Sat 1 pm – 2:30 pm

Snow Geese, Ross' Geese, Blue Morphs – it can be overwhelmingly white in the sky! Come learn how to tell the difference between all these white geese. Through exquisite pictures and lively narration you can become much more knowledgeable about our Mascot of the Festival. A\$5 – Y\$2

Presenter: Mike Peters

Photographing Birds and Nature – Where to Go in California

Saturday 1pm - 3pm

This program is an introduction to some of the locations scattered throughout California and Oregon that provide excellent opportunities to photograph nature, particularly birds. Photo opportunities on

the refuges of the Sacramento Refuge Complex will be discussed in addition to recommended methods of photographing at other locations. A\$10 – Y\$5

Presenter: Steve Emmons

Armchair Tour of Sutter Buttes **Sat 3 pm - 4:30 pm**

Here's an opportunity for glimpses into the mysterious Sutter Buttes. Travel through the Buttes without ever leaving your chair as you enjoy this fascinating slide presentation on the many facets and wonders of the remarkable landscape that makes up the Sutter Buttes. A\$5 – Y\$2

Presenter: Mike Hubbartt

Designing Gardens for Birds and Wildlife **Sat 3:30 pm 4:30pm**

Gardens can be more than just lawns bordered by shrubs and flowers. In this workshop we will discuss the critical elements for planning a garden for wildlife: providing food, water, space and shelter, along with how to incorporate these elements into the garden. We will discuss specific native plants, useful for attracting birds. A\$5 – Y\$2

Presenter: John Wittlesey

Sunday, January 27th
Field Trips

Oxidation Ponds and Indian Fishery **Sun 7:30 am – noon**

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Get the best of both worlds! First enjoy seeing a variety of waterfowl and other birds and mammals at our local sewer ponds. Next stop at Indian Fishery area of the Bidwell-Sacramento River State Park and take a 1/2 mile guided nature trail to see woodpeckers, woodland and aquatic birds. You may also see river otter, beaver, and pond turtles. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leader: Mike Fisher

Thomes Creek Birding Trek/Black Butte Lake **Sun 7:30am – 5:00pm**

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Drive to the Westside of the Upper Sacramento Valley with stops at Black Butte Lake to look for raptors and waterfowl. Then on to Thomes Creek Gorge trail (approx 8.4 miles round trip) that winds its way through Coast range chaparral/Gray pine. Some birds we hope to see are, California Thrasher, Mountain Quail, Golden Eagle, and Dipper. Participants must be in good hiking shape. Bring sturdy hiking boots, lunch, water, extra layers of clothing and binoculars. A\$20-Y\$7 Level 4

Field Trip Leader: Phil Johnson and Marjorie McNairn

Sutter Buttes Hike – Mid-Mountain **Sun 7:30 am – 4 pm**

Meet at McDonalds in Gridley

Take a 5-mile hike into the Sutter Buttes. Visit secluded locations that reveal the Buttes' geologic formation, Native American presence, old pioneer home sites, and a wild ecology typical of California's past. The mid mountain hike is moderately brisk. Wear sturdy hiking shoes or boots, dress in layers appropriate to the weather, bring lunch and water. A\$45 – Y\$40 Level 3

Field Trip Leaders: Mike Hubbartt and Marty Steidlemayer

Sutter Buttes Hike – Summit Ascent**Sun 7:30 am – 4 pm****Meet at McDonalds in Gridley**

See description of Sunday's **Sutter Buttes Hike - Mid-Mountain** and it includes a 1000 ft. elevation gain within a half-mile stretch, is quite strenuous. Wear sturdy hiking shoes or boots, dress in layers appropriate to the weather, bring lunch and water. A\$45 – Y\$40 Level 4

Field Trip Leaders: Mike Hubbartt and Marty Steidlemayer**Photography at Sac Refuge****Sun 8 am - noon****Meet at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge**

Rise and shine for a morning of photography at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge. We will concentrate on photographing waterfowl but come prepared to take scenic and close-up photographs. Please read the online description detailing the topics covered and type of camera equipment to bring. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 1

Field Trip Leader: Steve Emmons**Raptor Run****Sun 8 am – noon****Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center**

The Northern Sacramento Valley attracts some 14 different raptor species during the cold winter months. We will caravan down Highway 99 south of Chico to seek as many of these birds of prey as we can. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 1

Field Trip Leader: Jackson Shedd**Sutter Buttes - Peace Valley****Sun 8 am - 4 pm****Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center**

See Saturday's **Sutter Buttes - Peace Valley** hike description for information. A\$45 – Y\$40 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Ranger Tim Davis**Llano Seco Viewing Platform – Dabbling, Diving, & Soaring****Sun 8:30 am - 12:30 pm****Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center**

Visit the viewing platforms at the Llano Seco Unit of the Sacramento River NWR. This is an ideal location for viewing a large number geese, ducks, and hawks in one location! This is definitely a birding hot spot. Kenn Kaufman will help co-lead this field trip.

A\$20 – Y\$7 Level 2

Field Trip Leaders: Shelly Kirn, Jackie Ferrier, Kenn Kaufman**Kayaking the Forebay****Sun 8:30 am - 12:30 pm****Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center**

Cruise the cold waters of Lake Oroville's North Forebay and get up close with the resident and wintering waterfowl. This is a leisurely 3-mile paddle. You must bring your own canoe or kayak and

also have a PFD (personal floatation device) for each person. Bring binoculars and warm clothing.
A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 4

Field Trip Leaders: Ellen Clark and Bill Stewart

Feather River's Bedrock Park Sun 8:45 am - 12:30 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

The main attraction of this leisurely walk at Bedrock Park is the diving duck population that frequents this stretch of the Feather River and the many species of wintering songbirds. See Buffleheads, Goldeneyes, Ruddy Ducks, and Common Mergansers doing their courtship and bonding displays.
A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leader: Leroy Hord and Darhl Whitlock

In Search of the Wild Turkey Sun 9 am - 1 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Benjamin Franklin thought so highly of the wild turkey that he recommended it as our national symbol. The Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve is home to flourishing flocks of these majestic birds. Hear a brief presentation on the turkey's history, life cycle, and demonstration of turkey calling. Then we will go in search of the wild turkey. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Scott Huber

Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Sun 9 am – 2:30 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Enjoy great birding opportunities at the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area. We will also drive the three-mile auto tour route. Birds likely to be seen include **Snow Geese**, raptors, egrets, herons, Belted Kingfishers and many other wetland species. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leader: Mary Muchowski and Mike Skram



Birding In Paradise! Sun 9 am – 2:30 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Yes, see the birds of Paradise! We should see Spotted Towhees along with Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Downy, Nuttall's and Acorn Woodpeckers in the oak woodlands of Paradise. We will then travel up the hill to DeSabra Reservoir where sightings of bald eagles, wood ducks, Canada geese, nuthatches, chickadees, and mergansers are common. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Gaylord Grams

Bike & Bird with Chico Velo Sun 10 am – 2 pm

Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center

Bike, bike, bike around for this 3 to 4 hour flat bike ride out to the Indian Fishery Day Use Area of Bidwell-Sacramento River State Park, with a return stop at the Oxidation Ponds. Riders should have a reliable and safe bicycle along with helmets. Please bring your own water. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 4

Field Trip Leader: Ed McLaughlin

Hiking Tour of Riparian Restoration Sites**Sun 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm****Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center**

Walk the approximately 3-mile hike which will cover the Ord Bend Unit of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game's Jacinto Unit. Come learn about river and restoration processes, opportunities for local community involvement and wildlife benefits as you view the dramatic transformation-taking place on these sites. Good walking shoes are a must! A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Dan Efseaff**Wing-It to the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Sun 12:30 pm – 5 pm****Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center**

The "winging-it" part of this trip is where the fun starts! Veer off the beaten path as your leader gravitates to where the birds are. At the Refuge we will view the dioramas and pick-up a wildlife checklist. Then we are off to a leisurely adventure around the auto tour loop to possibly see thousands of birds. You can expect to see **Snow Geese**, pintails, cinnamon teal, ring neck ducks, wigeon, raptors, and possibly a bald eagle. A\$15 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leader: Michael Denega**Chico's Hidden Wetlands - Teichert Ponds Sun 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm****Meet at the Chico Masonic Center**

Bring the family and explore these hidden wetlands on a discovery hike through one of Chico's best-kept secrets, Teichert Ponds. The ponds are an urban oasis for wildlife in the midst of development, hosting wood ducks, osprey, herons, egrets and more. Wear long pants for blackberry bushes and shoes appropriate for mud. A\$10 – Y\$5 Level 2

Field Trip Leader: Jon Aull**Birds, Plants and Indian Shelter****Sun 1 pm - 4 pm****Meet at Chico Masonic Family Center**

Join us for a fun family hike to Upper Bidwell Park! On our way to the Indian shelter, we will pause to appreciate wildlife and Indian uses of plants. It is a three-mile round-trip hike so wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water. A\$10 – Y\$5 Level 3

Field Trip Leader: Jim Dempsey

Sunday, January 27th
Presentations/Workshops

Digiscoping 101 with Field Trip**Sun 9 am – 11 am**

In this seminar you will spend time in the classroom and then out in the field. Bruce Webb, California Field Technician of Swarovski Optik, USA will work with participants on topics such as: choosing the best camera mounting options, shooting tips, techniques in the field, and using a Digital SLR behind the scope eyepiece. Participants are encouraged to bring their spotting scopes and digital still cameras. A\$10 – Y\$5

Presenter: Bruce Webb**Birds of Bidwell Park****Sun 9:30 am – 10:30 am**

Enjoy a virtual field trip through the seasons of Bidwell Park, with a discussion of the interesting facts about the feathered denizens. Bidwell Park offers an amazing diversity of birds throughout the year

and it is the perfect place for both the experienced and novice birdwatcher to learn and enjoy about the birds near and dear to us. A\$5 – Y\$2

Presenter: Roger Lederer

All About Bats!

Sun 9:30am-11:00am

They are one of the most beneficial, yet most misunderstood animals in the world. Learn more about the habits, habitats, and species of bats that reside within the unique ecosystems of California's valleys and forests.

A\$5 – Y\$2

Presenter: Corky Quirk

Volcanoes of Lassen Volcanic National Park Sun 11 am –12:30pm

This workshop is a great opportunity for educators, adults, and children ages twelve and older to learn about some of the world's most exciting active earth processes. Learn about the unique geologic features of the national park and how to identify the four major types of volcanoes using a variety of fun and creative techniques. A\$5 – Y\$2

Presenter: Steve Zachary

Bat and Bird Box Building

Sun 11 am – 1pm

Stop by this box building station to construct your own bird or bat box! Learn a few pointers on placement and maintenance then take them home and start attracting these amazing creatures.

Participants will be assigned a designated time to stop by to build a box as only two boxes can be built at a time. A\$5 – Y\$5

Presenter: TBA

Waterfowl Legacy

Sun 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm

Enjoy a lively and colorful power point presentation about how to identify some common ducks, geese, and swans found in the Sacramento Valley and the heritage of waterfowl hunting. A\$5 – Y\$2

Presenter: Denise Dashner

GPS & Geocaching With Your Family

Sun 1:30pm-2:30pm

How about some outdoor family fun? Join Randy and learn how the Global Positioning System (GPS) is being used to manage our cultural and natural resources. GPS is frequently used in the management of natural resources and in wildlife research in locating where a bird is found. Then learn how to use the GPS unit with a fun family game called geocaching! Throughout the United States there are hidden treasures and all that is required is some instruction. GPS units will be available during the workshop. A\$5 – Y\$2

Presenter: Randy Cousineau

Armchair Tour of Black Butte Lake

Sun 2:00pm-3:00pm

Relax and take in a slide show of the lake's 40 miles of shoreline, three nature trails, and striking landscape. See and touch natural artifacts of the area's wildlife that will include snakeskins, skulls of bobcat and mountain lion, and pelts of beaver and otter. A\$5 – Y\$2

Presenter: Mary Ann Deeming

9th Annual Snow Goose Festival

Leader Bios

Skip Augur is publicity and webmaster of the *White-Tailed Kite*, the local Altacal Audubon Society's newsletter.

Jon Aull received his master's degree studying parks and natural resources in the recreation department at Chico State. He is the environmental education coordinator for the Chico Creek Nature Center, where he develops and implements nature programs for school children and families.

Jay Bogiatto is Station Manager at CSU, Chico's Eagle Lake Field Station, Director of the Biology Department's Vertebrate Museum and teaches ornithology, waterfowl biology and zoology at CSU, Chico.

Steve Brightwell is Assistant Manager at the California Department of Fish and Game Feather River Fish Hatchery.

Ellen Clark has been an interpreter with California State Parks for twenty-one years. She is an avid kayaker and birder.

Randy Cousineau is a resource manager who spent many years with the National Park Service, USFWS, and USFS. He is currently an instructor at Butte College, where he teaches geography, GIS, and GPS and serves on the Sustainability Steering Committee.

Denise Dachner has been the Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Sacramento NWR Complex for over 19 years. She oversees the hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, photography, environmental education, and interpretation programs for Sacramento, Delevan, Colusa, Sutter and Sacramento River NWRs.

Sharon Dale has been an animal trainer and educator for more than 18 years. She was integral in the Bald eagle reintroduction program in Tennessee. Sharon is now the Animal Programs Manager at Turtle Bay.

Tim Davis has served as a State Park Ranger at several parks throughout California for over thirty years. His current work location is the Bidwell – Sacramento River State Park just outside of Chico.

Tyler Dawley of Big Bluff Ranch grew up on the family ranch where it was understood that the health of the landscape directly affects the health of humans. Big Bluff Ranch's grass-fed meat is the translation of a healthy landscape into healthy food.

Jim Dempsey works in resource management for California State Parks and is an active member of the California Native Plant Society.

Wes Dempsy is an Emeritus Professor of Biology at California State University Chico. Wes has led hikes in the area for many years.

Michael Denega is a dynamic researcher and instructor at Folsom Lake College and Independent Learning Center. He has spent considerable time as a researcher and wildlife photographer in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge with the Federal Migratory Bird Program.

Dan Efseaff is a Restoration Ecologist for River Partners whose main focus is on the implementation of river conservation projects.

Steve Emmons is an Assistant Refuge Manager for the Sacramento and Delevan National Wildlife Refuges (Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Willows, CA) since 1996.

Anna-Lise Feenstra was Altacal Audubon's field trip coordinator for 12 years and has been a birder since 1967.

Jackie Ferrier has been a biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service since 1993 and is currently stationed at Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

Mike Fisher is the current Co-Vice President of the local Altacal Audubon Chapter. He is an avid birder and volunteer bird bander at the Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve.

Marilyn Gamette is a retired US Fish and Wildlife Interpretative Specialist and is also the California Coordinator for the Federal Junior Duck Stamp Program.

Dawn Garcia has worked professionally as a wildlife biologist in Washington State. She has had her federal bird banding license for 12 years and has initiated a variety of studies with songbirds and various owl species.

Gaylord Grams is an avid local birder and leads many field trips for the Altacal Chapter of the Audubon Society.

Herman Gray is a retired physician. While traveling the world in his profession, he has enjoyed viewing many bird species. He is also an active Gray Lodge Wildlife Area docent.

Tom Griggs has designed and implemented riparian restoration projects along the Sacramento River for the past 18 years. He works for River Partners and is a plant ecologist by training. He knows where to find birds and other wildlife on the river floodplain.

Bob Guzman serves on the Snow Goose Festival Steering Committee and is actively involved in the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Wood Duck Program.

Leroy Hord, local birder, is actively involved in the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area Wood Duck Program.

Mike Hubbartt is a Middle Mountain Foundation board member actively involved in the preservation of the integrity of the Sutter Buttes for over twenty-three years.

Liam Huber is known among local birders as a birding prodigy. With a life-list of over 340 species, Liam has birded many of the best hot-spots in the country including Alaska, southeast Arizona and Pt. Reyes, identifying and photographing such rarities as: Long tailed Jaeger, Palm warbler and Aztec thrush.

Scott Huber, is an avid birder and hunter. As chairman of the Chico Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation, licensed California Turkey Hunting Guide and Field Trip Chairman for Altacal Audubon Society, Scott's local experience is sure to provide a great morning of birding and turkey watching.

Phil Johnson is the President of the Altacal Audubon Society member and coordinator of both the Oroville and Chico Christmas Bird Counts.

Steve King traded in his guns for cameras when he became interested in bird watching about 35 years ago. Steve is the second of three generations of bird watchers. His favorite birding spots are Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon, Upper Bidwell Park and the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge.

Shelly Kirn is a dynamic instructor of field biology, zoology and plant science at CSU, Chico.

Roger Lederer is Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences at CSU, Chico. He has taught ornithology and ecology courses, as well as worked with environmental organizations and schools.

Greg Massa is a 4th generation California rice farmer. He and his wife live in a strawbale house (built with their own rice straw) with their five children, and market their organic rice under the Massa Organics label. Greg is also on the Boards of Directors of the Rice Producers of California, California Rice Commission, and the Glenn County Resource Conservation District.

Mac McCormick A retired high school biology teacher of 37 years and the co-director of the San Francisco State University (SFSU) Sierra Nevada Field Station Bird Banding Program, Mac has caught and banded thousands of birds that most people only hope to see.

Dan McKnight is part owner of the Book Family Farm.

Ed McLaughin has been the manager of the Chico Velo Cycling Club for the past 25 years.

Mary Muchowski has worked as a wildlife technician/biologist since 1988 with the U.S. Forest Service, the BLM and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and currently has a business contracting with the Forest Service to conduct wildlife surveys.

Julie Nelson is a CSU, Chico graduate student who has spent the last three years as a bird banding volunteer with Dawn Garcia studying the migratory behavior of passerines and Northern Saw-whet Owls. This is her fourth year as a volunteer for the Snow Goose Festival.

Gary Norcross is the Orchard Manager of the U.S. Forest Service Genetic Resource Center since 1975.

Bill Oliver is president of the Wintu Audubon Society in Redding, California.

Corky Quirk is a wildlife rehabilitator who specializes in bats and works with Wildlife Rehabilitation and Release, a nonprofit group based in Penn Valley. She is happy to dispel myths about bats.

Marilyn Rose is one of the owners and founders of www.DiscountBinoculars.com and **Out of this World**, located in the beautiful coastal town of Mendocino, overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Since 1988, this shop has offered a broad and intelligent selection of optics for birders, naturalists, and travelers and is one of the largest optics sellers in California.

Peter Sands is one of the landowners of the Dean Ranch in the Sutter Buttes. He is a naturalist for the Middle Mountain Foundation and an enthusiastic ornithologist. He has been the compiler of the Peace Valley Christmas bird count for the past 22 years.

Don Schmoldt has led a number of trips into Sutter Buttes since 1984. He is a professional wildlife biologist and naturalist, and has been a serious birder for nearly 45 years.

Jackson Shedd is an avid birder and past President of the Altacal Audubon Society. Jackson is also a local wildlife artist and author of [Amphibians and Reptiles of Bidwell Park](#).

Joe Silveira is a Wildlife Biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service since 1990 and is currently stationed at Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

Mike Skram has had a passion for birds since the 4th grade when his teacher would point out and identify birds in the schoolyard. Today, Mike is one of the most skilled and passionate birders in Butte County, especially his ability to identify many species by their songs.

Marty Steidlemayer is a Sutter Buttes landowner and rancher. Marty has an intimate knowledge of the Sutter Buttes landscapes.

Bill Stewart spent over twenty-five years presenting interpretive programs as a California State Park Ranger. He is now retired and is an avid kayaker and birder.

Brad Stovall has been birding for 35 years. He is the author of the Lassen County field checklist of birds and author of the updated Butte County field checklists of birds. He taught field identification of birds at Lassen College in Susanville in the 1980s. He is currently working on a bird finding guide of Lassen County.

Scott Toricelli is an environmental educator for over twenty-five years. He currently teaches for the Chico Unified School District.

Andy Wahl is a master falconer for thirteen years. Andy currently teaches biology at Chico Junior High.

Bruce Webb When he was a student at Chico State worked with Tim Manolis to write the Annotated List of Birds of Butte County. Currently, he is the U.S. distributor of Wildlife Computing software products and is California's Field Technician for Swarovski Optiks, USA.

Dale Whitmore is a Wildlife Biologist for the California Department of Fish and Game in Marysville.

John Whittlesey owns Canyon Creek Nursery, is the horticulture chairperson for the Mount Lassen Chapter of the California Native Plant Society and a graduate of the California School of Garden Design.

Kelly Williams is a Natural Resource Specialist for the Bureau of Land Management. He has been in the North Valley area for over twenty years.

Mike Williams is a life-long naturalist and has served as the Director of the Sedgwick Reserve in the Santa Ynez Valley. Along with his Ph.D. from the University of Washington, he has published in breeding bird censuses for the eastern Sierra Nevada in *American Birds* and possesses a master bird-banding permit.

Darhl Whitlock grew up in Northern California. She is currently an instructor at CSU, Chico where she teaches general biology and field biology.

Steve Zachary is a Park Ranger and the Education Specialist at Lassen Volcanic National Park for more than 16 years. He is an avid hiker and naturalist.

Dawit Zeleke is a Land Manager and Restoration Specialist for the Nature Conservancy.

Keynote Speaker Kenn Kaufman is a legend among birders and has perhaps done more than any other single human being to promote the appreciation of birds. A birder and naturalist since childhood, he left home at the age of sixteen to begin an 80,000-mile cross-country journey aimed at breaking the record for most avian species sightings in a single year. Those travels were just the beginning; since that time he has led nature tours on all seven continents. A longtime friend and disciple of the late eminent birder Roger Tory Peterson, Kaufman is a field editor for *Audubon* magazine and a regular contributor to every major birding magazine. He is the youngest person ever to receive the highest honor of the American Birding Association, and he has been voted to elective membership in the prestigious American Ornithologists' Union. His books include *Lives of North American Birds*, *Kingbird Highway*, *The Peterson Field Guide to Advanced Birding*, and his own Kaufman Field Guide series (on North American birds, butterflies, mammals, and insects).

Thank you!

9th Annual Snow Goose Festival Steering Committee and Subcommittees - We could not have done it all without you "honkers"

Chris Calloway, Silent Auction

Debbie Chakarun, Program & Youth Activities

Lollie De Young, Silent Auction

Mike Fisher, Keynote Speaker Coordinator & Merchandise

Marilyn Gamette, Exhibit Coordinator & Program

Liz Gardner, Registration

Tom Haithcock, Program

Kathleen Huber, Youth Activities

Veronika Kehoe, Reception

Ruth Kennedy, Youth Activities

Maureen Knowlton, Reception & Registration
Chuck Lundgren, Website Master
Mary Lou Martin, Registration
OJ McMillan, Registration
Kathleen McPartland, Silent Auction
John Merz, Committee Chair
Marvey Mueller, Field Trip Coordination & Media
John Oswald, Treasurer
Stephen Overlock, Volunteer Coordinator
Carol Passovoy, Art Exhibit
Jennifer Patten, Festival Coordinator
Lois Perkins, Art Exhibit
Shar Plowman, Registration
Nancy Prestopino, Silent Auction
Margaret Rader, Reception
Sue Scott, Art Exhibit
Carolyn Short, Media
Elisabeth Stewart, Registration
Melinda Vasques, Art Exhibit
Robert Villarrial, Website Master
Emily Williams, Media
Gayle Womack, Media
Tiffany Yost, Registration & Website

In addition to those mentioned, many individuals have helped to plan and create this year's festival. The Steering Committee would like to sincerely thank all those who have had a hand in this year's programming and events, especially our many field trip and workshop leaders.

Special thank you to:

All Fired Up! Gallery and Ceramic Art Center
Avenue 9 Gallery
Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve
Boy Scouts of America Troup 3
California Conservation Corps
Chico Creek Nature Center
Middle Mountain Foundation
Peet's Coffeehouse
Rich Nelson Design
Short Run Publishing
The Nature Conservancy

Thank you to our Sponsors who helped make this Festival a success

Snow Goose Festival Sponsors 2008

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Supporting Sponsors

Great Blue Heron \$1000

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California State Parks
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New Urban Builders
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Sacramento River Preservation Trust
Sacramento River Watershed Program
Soroptimist International of Chico
US Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Tundra Swan \$500

Altacal Audubon Society
California Waterfowl Association
Chico Creek Nature Center
Chico News and Review
Kelly Meagher
Red Tavern

Snowy Egret \$250

California Rice Commission
Lundberg Family Farms
Lois Perkins
Rancho Esquon

White-faced-Ibis \$100

Birkenstock of Chico
California Department of Fish and Game
John B. Copeland
Gary Younie Truck and Auto Repair, Inc.
Jill and Tom Resk
The Nature Conservancy

Tips & Etiquette for Bird Watchers:

To make your trip more enjoyable for yourself and others, we ask you to please use these following etiquette tips:

- Wear clothing suitable for the weather and area you'll be hiking in. It's practical to layer clothing to accommodate fluctuations in temperature. Wear comfortable shoes that have a

good grip and are waterproof when necessary. You may want to take sunscreen, a hat or rain gear.

- Bring binoculars or a scope for a better viewing experience.
- Bring water on long outings to stay hydrated.
- Bring a Field Guide if you are interested in learning more about the birds you see. If you are a beginning birder, look for a guide that specializes in birds of northern California.
- Be courteous to other explorers. Stay with your group and pay attention to your trip leader. Walk quietly and slowly. Do not disrupt animals or their habitats. Turn off cell phones or other electronic devices. If you are taking children with you, explain to them proper etiquette before the trip.
- Tune up your senses and listen carefully. Scan the horizon and tree canopies. Look to the ground for prints, feathers and other traces of wildlife. Please remove litter and leave natural items where they belong. This will keep it enjoyable for others when they visit.