

# Welcome to the *Flyway Festival*

January 2012

Dear Flyway Festival Fan and Friend:

Here it is another migratory season in our San Francisco Bay Estuary. And, it's again my pleasure to invite you to join us at the *16th Annual San Francisco Flyway Festival*, our annual celebration of the return to the San Francisco Bay of more than 1 million shorebirds and hundreds of thousands of waterfowl.

On the weekend of Friday, Saturday and Sunday February 10-12, 2012 at the peak of this annual wild happening, we will gather together from all parts of the Bay Area for our Mare Island-based *Wildlife and Birding Expo* and to visit some of the best wildlife viewing areas of the Bay, especially the northern bay where so



much of the wildlife habitat is just now beginning to be opened to regular public access, yet, much is still off-limits except during the three days of the Flyway Festival.

Every year the festival generates so much genuine enthusiasm and community spirit and excitement about all the unique wildlife and history around us. This out-pouring begins with our exhibitors, presentations and support from our sponsors. The wildlife is always center stage and the best source of pleasure, entertainment and education. The rich history of Mare Island, our Festival headquarters for the past 16 years, also reminds us of the people who came before us and made our present possible.

Each year I am truly amazed and gratified to see and feel the energy, warmth and eagerness that comes from the festival. Many times through the years, I have struggled and even doubted this festival would get off the

ground and it always comes together with energy from far and wide that gets us to the finish. It is a magical weekend, seeing both young and old and everyone in-between marvel at nature that they may not even notice on a daily basis. For just one weekend it is not about the one community we live in, it is about the entire ecosystem of wildlife that knows no city limits or other boundaries.

In addition to our guided outdoor nature, history and recreational hikes and birdwatching outings, we introduce beginning and avid wildlife viewers to some of our favorite self-guided locations that are especially great for wildlife viewing and bird watching during the Festival and throughout the year, such as the *San Pablo Bay Wetlands Trail* and the *Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve*.

Our main Flyway Festival headquarters is at the former Mare Island Naval Shipyard where our **WILDLIFE AND BIRDING EXPO** includes exhibits and interactive activities offered by more than 100 non-profit, natural and historical resource agencies and commercial art, birding suppliers and digital equipment and optics vendors, along with a fine art exhibition entitled, *Bay Area Wetlands to Ridgetops*, a silent auction and raffle and good food.

I am anticipating another great Flyway Festival at the same location as last year, Building 223 on Mare Island, which turned out to be such a great new home and hope that you will join us for this year's celebration of all our fun, entertaining and fascinating wildlife, as well as a view into the rich and varied history that makes this area so unique.

**It's up to you and me to keep the Flyway Festival forever free**

If you believe with all your hearts as I do, that the *Flyway Festival* fills a special need and purpose here on the "north shore" of San Francisco Bay, I hope you will show your commitment



Photo: Kathleen R. Fenton

with a generous contribution to help us keep the *Flyway Festival* free and provide the absolutely highest quality experience we can deliver.

Because of my continued personal commitment to keeping the Flyway Festival free and because more than ever, you, our participants, are eager for authentic experiences that you can enjoy with others who share your desire to get out into and learn more about the wild world around you, I invite you to consider a donation of any amount or simply an in-kind product or service or something for our silent auction and raffle, or just as important, bid and buy at the Wildlife Expo!

Please make your donation to the Flyway Festival payable to:

**Mare Island Heritage Trust**  
Mail to: 816 Branciforte St.  
Vallejo, CA 94590

or to make a contribution by credit card visit:

[www.mareislandpreserve.org](http://www.mareislandpreserve.org)  
Click on the **DONATE** button.

Please call with questions:  
(707)-249-9633

**The best news this year is that Skaggs Island and its superb hawk viewing opportunity is back!** Join Murray Berner, Brian Collett and John Robinson who have so graciously arranged their schedules to guide you on one of 5 scheduled trips to the island in this special birdwatching experience. And, thanks to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for allowing access to Skaggs Island.

Last year we introduced you to the **San Pablo Bay Walking Trail**. It has been open for a little over a year now for walking, running and wildlife

viewing. We're going to hold a little ceremony to officially "bless" it with a ribbon-cutting on **Saturday morning, February 11 at 10:30am**. Come join us where you will get a chance to thank the folks from **Weston Solutions** who built the trail and meet our Mayor and others associated with the trail development, as well as other trail enthusiasts. In fact, gather earlier **Saturday morning with Wally Neville at 9:30am** at the Wildlife Expo for a walk over to do some birdwatching on the trail.

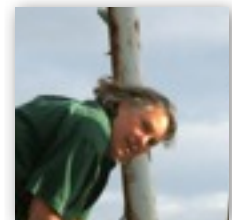
Be sure to visit the Mare Island **Shoreline Heritage Preserve** at the southern end of the island, where we are open every Friday-Sunday 10am-sunset and seasonally for nighttime lighted trail walks. The next **Lighted Trail Walk is coming up Friday, March 16-Easter Sunday, April 8 when we will be open daily 10:00am-10:00pm**. Peggy O'Drain, our cemetery docent will give tours and talks about her latest discoveries in the Navy's oldest cemetery in the Pacific, located in the Preserve, **Sunday, February 12, 11am-3pm**.

Call or email either Kathy [kathy@blacknugget.com 425-279-3502] or me [myrnaahay@pacbell.net 707-249-9633] with questions and suggestions.

We welcome you to invite others to join us. Pass this invitation along electronically or request to be added to our mailing list.

**Happy trails and birdwatching to you**

On behalf of my fellow board members and our Flyway Festival coordinating team, we look forward with great anticipation to spending the weekend with you in February.



Warmly,

Myrna Hayes  
Festival Coordinator and Co-founder  
Mare Island Heritage Trust

# San Francisco Bay *Flyway Festival*

## Family Wildlife and Birding Expo

Friday, February 10 and Saturday February 11

**5:30pm – 7:00pm**  
**Festival and Art Exhibit**  
**Opening Reception**

**Bay Area Wetlands to Ridgetops and North Bay Regional Wetlands Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve Plein Air Paintout Shows**

**Building 223, 500 Connolly St. Mare Island**

Preview fine art, sample wines of the Napa Valley, the Carneros region and beyond, and enjoy good company and food featuring Whole Foods–Napa and other contributors at the opening of the Flyway Festival and its Fine Art Exhibit with our Opening Reception and Festival Host, Weston Solutions, Inc.

Welcome for the first time to the Flyway Festival the Extension Agents, Amanda Cundiff on fiddle with friends Mason Earles on mandolin, Jens Stevens, on fiddle, bassist, Jon O'Brien and Matt Hamilton, playing guitar. They'll be playing Bluegrass and Americana—music inspired by mountains, rivers, farms, and heartaches.

with the artists directly this evening.

**Call for Art Flyway Festival Art Exhibition and Paintout**

Photographers and painters of all ages and skills are invited to exhibit original work that depicts: local wildlife, San Francisco Bay regional landscape, and native habitats from San Francisco Bay to the ridgetops of Mt. Tamalpais and Mt. Diablo, especially wetlands, marshes, the San Francisco Bay Estuary and the Carquinez Strait. Fees: \$25 for up to 3 entries. Entry Forms postmarked or submitted via email by February 4.

**North Bay Wetlands Regional Plein Air Paintout and Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve Paintout:** \$25 for up to 3 entries. Deliver paintout art submissions the same days and times as other art entries. [Entry forms](#) are on our website. For information call 707-552-7351 (let ring 6-7 times) or [send an email](#).

**Visit the Wildlife Expo and Support the Flyway Festival**

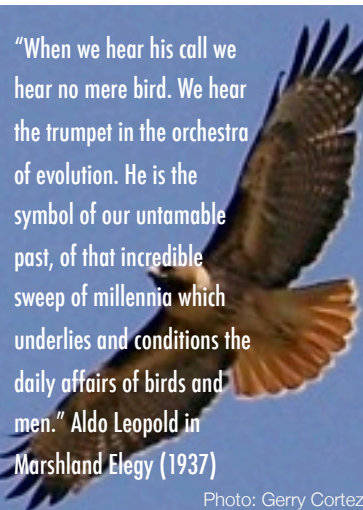
Come in from the great outdoors to visit the more than 75 exhibitors, presenters, and art, jewelry and birding supply vendors waiting to show you a good time at our **FAMILY WILDLIFE EXPO** 9:00am to 4:00pm Saturday and

Sunday at Building 223, 500 Connolly St. on Mare Island. Your purchase of art, raffle tickets and your winning bids in our silent auction, all help keep our Festival wild and free.



**7:00pm – 8:30pm**  
**Greenfire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time**  
Introduced by local US Forest Service filmmakers Steve and Ann Dunskey, who directed and edited the movie  
*Repeats Saturday 6:30pm*

**Green Fire** was produced in partnership between the Aldo Leopold Foundation, the Center for Humans and Nature, and the US Forest Service. Green Fire is the first full-length, high-definition documentary film ever made about legendary environmentalist Aldo Leopold. The movie highlights Leopold's extraordinary



"When we hear his call we hear no mere bird. We hear the trumpet in the orchestra of evolution. He is the symbol of our untamable past, of that incredible sweep of millennia which underlies and conditions the daily affairs of birds and men." Aldo Leopold in *Marshland Elegy (1937)*

Photo: Gerry Cortez

career, tracing how he shaped and influenced the modern environmental movement. The film provocatively examines Leopold's thinking, renewing his idea of a land ethic for a population facing 21st century ecological challenges. This is a movie so relevant for Mare Island

and the bioregion our island is the center of. Leopold remains relevant today, inspiring projects all over the country that connect people and land like you will experience during the Flyway Festival.

**Saturday, February 11**

**9:00am – 4:00pm**  
**Bay Area Wetlands to Ridgetops Fine Art Exhibit, North Bay Regional Wetlands and Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve Plein Air Paintout Show Art Exhibition, Building 223.**

*Repeats Friday 5:30-7:00pm and Sunday 9:00am-4:00pm*

**9:00am - 4:00pm**  
**Nature Art, Learning and Crafts for Kids hosted by the Center for Imaginative Reuse**

*Repeats Sunday 9:00am-4:00pm*

Kids learn about birds and nature through hands-on activities about bird species and habitat, and art. Grown-ups help their own kids at self-learning stations. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

**9:30am-10:30am**  
**Mare Island San Pablo Bay Walking Trail Birdwalk**  
Leader: Wally Neville, Napa-Solano Audubon Society field guide

Walk with Wally to birdwatch and explore the western edge of Mare Island adjacent to the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge on a trail that borders endangered salt marsh harvest mouse habitat with views of San Pablo Bay, Mt. Tamalpais and Sonoma Mountain. Seasonal wetlands with ducks, egrets and shorebirds. **Directions:** Meet at the Festival Expo [Building 223](#) Outing Tent to walk together, or meet at the trailhead at the west end of A Street off Azuar Dr.

**9:30am – 11:15am**  
**Photographing Panoramas with Julio Mestres**  
*Repeats Friday, 3:30pm and Sunday, 2:00pm*

**See Friday 3:30pm description**



Photo: Brian Collett

Take advantage of the opportunity to meet the artists at our opening reception. Much of the art in our show is for sale. As one of the finest all nature art shows in the region, our Friday evening opening is a good time to consider an art purchase – it will help keep the Festival free and you may arrange your purchase

# Wildlife Expo Saturday February 11

10:30am-11:00am

## Grand-opening and ribbon cutting Mare Island San Pablo Bay Wetlands Trail

Join Mayor Osby Davis (invited), representatives of [Weston Solutions, Inc.](#) Festival Host Sponsor for more than a decade and trail manager, and Festival Coordinator Myrna Hayes with fellow members of the Mare Island Restoration Advisory Board who advocated for the trail for more than a decade.

See [directions Friday 8:00am description](#)

11:00am-11:30am

## Birding with an iPhone or iPad

Presenter: Nigel Hall, President Appweavers, Inc. Peterson Birds of North America for iPhone and iPad

Repeats Saturday, 2:00pm, Sunday, 11:00am and Sunday 2:30pm



Photo: John Klycinski

spontaneous presentation featuring several live, non-releasable wild raptors. We strive to provide an experience of "seeing through the eyes of the birds" and encourage lots of questions! Jenny has been a wildlife educator and manager for 20 years and experience with 35 species of raptors in captivity.

1:00pm-2:00pm

## National Wildlife Refuge Blue Goose Mascot "Puddles" visits the Flyway Festival

Get a hug, shake a hand and get a tattoo from the Blue Goose Mascot.

1:00pm-1:30pm

## Birding with an iPhone or iPad

Presenter: Nigel Hall, President Appweavers, Inc. Peterson Birds of North America for iPhone and iPad

Repeats Saturday, 11:00am Sunday, 11:00am and Sunday 2:30pm

1:00pm - 2:00pm

## Suisun Wildlife Center Slide Show and Live Wildlife Visit Wildbird Show Stage Sponsored by Swarovski Optik

Monique Liguori, Executive and Education Director assisted by Wildlife Center Manager Margie Furco, focuses on the 34-year effort of the Suisun Wildlife Center to care for and return to the wild injured and orphaned wildlife in Solano County. Non-releasable wildlife will be shown and principles of wildlife rehabilitation discussed. The Association's education programs reach 10-20,000 children and adults annually.

1:30pm-2:30pm

## Birdwatcher's Diary app presented by Steven Patt, Stevens Creek Software

Repeats Sunday 1:30pm

Leave your paper checklists behind! Capture, count, map, upload and email, send to eBird, compile, search, etc. while in the field with this fully featured iOS birding database.



2:00pm-3:00pm

## Learn All About Honey Bees

Join [Bay Area Bee Company](#) owner and beekeeper Rokas Armonas at his booth in the Wildlife Expo to learn how bees relate to their surroundings; the value of local honey; and all about bee products. Sample and purchase local honey now sold at the Mare Island Preserve Visitors Center and this weekend at the Flyway Festival.

2:00pm-3:30pm

## "Bag-it" Award-winning Movie

co-sponsored by Marissa Carlisle and Carol Poole, hosted by Napa Valley CanDo and Napa Solano Audubon Society

Repeats Sunday, 2:00pm

The film "Bag It" follows "everyman" Jeb as he embarks on a global tour to unravel the complexities of our plastic world and becomes a wholesale investigation into plastic and its effect on our waterways, oceans, wildlife and our bodies. It is shocking, touching and funny. We see what we can do about it. Try going a day without plastic. Right now! *Best of Festival: Monterey Blue Oceans; Audience choice: Telluride Mountainfilm, Flagstaff Mountain, Ashland, and Wild & Scenic.* ([www.bagitmovie.com](http://www.bagitmovie.com))

2:30pm-3:30pm

## How Martinez saved its beavers and helped its birds

In 2007, the town of Martinez was faced with a problem. Beavers had built a dam in a downtown creek already prone to flooding. No one expected the massive public response which forced the city to control the beaver dam, humanely. New wetlands made and maintained by the beavers since that time have created remarkable habitat for steelhead, otter, mink and a variety of new birds. Come see how a community allowed beavers to restore its wetlands, increase the fish and wildlife populations and broaden its bird count. *Beavers really are Worth A Dam!*

*Heidi Perryman, Ph.D. is an "accidental beaver advocate" who began filming the beavers in 2006, served on the subcommittee that addressed beaver management and started the organization "Worth A Dam" to deal with their continued care. She presented in Oregon at the State of the Beaver Conference and is currently working with a multidisciplinary team on beaver historic prevalence and the role of beaver-assisted salmon recovery in California.*

## 3:00pm-3:45pm Learn about the History of the Mare Island Naval Hospital Complex in a PowerPoint Discussion

PowerPoint repeats Sunday, 1:00pm-1:45pm and 3:00-3:45pm

## Join a walking tour of the Hospital grounds now Touro University, Sunday, 2:00pm-2:45pm. See Sunday 2:00pm description

Join Dr. Tom Snyder, Captain, Medical Corps, USN, ret., Co-Founder and Executive Director, The Society for the History of Navy Medicine for a PowerPoint presentation featuring the fascinating history of the Navy's oldest hospital in the Pacific, closed in 1957 and now part of the campus of Touro University.

6:30pm-8pm

## Greenfire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for Our Time

Repeats Friday 7pm-8:30pm

Introduced by local US Forest Service filmmakers Steve and Ann Dunsky, who directed and edited the movie.

See [Friday 7pm description](#)



# Wildlife Expo Sunday February 12

9:00am – 4:00pm

**Bay Area Wetlands to Ridgetops Fine Art Exhibit, North Bay Regional Wetlands and Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve Plein Air Paintout Show Building 223.**

*Repeats Friday 5:30-7:00pm and Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm*

9:00am - 4:00pm

**Nature Art, Learning and Crafts for Kids hosted by the Center for Imaginative Reuse**

*Repeats Saturday 9:00am-4:00pm*

**See Saturday 9:00am description**

9:30am – 11:15am

**Photographing Panoramas with Julio Mestres**

*Repeats Friday, 3:30pm and Saturday, 9:30am*

**See Friday 3:30pm description**

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**Birding with an iPhone or iPad**

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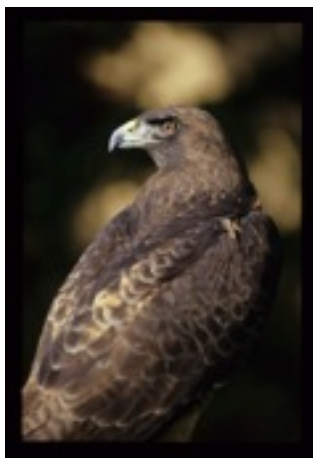


Photo: James Martin

11:30am - 12:30pm

**Native Bird Connections Raptor Show “Raptors Up Close” Wildbird Show Sponsored by Swarovski Optik**

**Presenter: Jenny Papka, Co-Director and Curator Native Bird Connections**  
*Repeats Saturday 11:30am*

**See Saturday 11:30am description**

**1:00pm-1:45pm Learn about the History of the Mare Island Naval Hospital Complex in a PowerPoint Discussion**

*PowerPoint discussion repeats Saturday and Sunday, 3:00-3:45pm*

**Also, walking tour of the Hospital grounds now Touro University campus 2:00pm-2:45pm For tour details see Mare Island Outings Sunday 2:00pm description**

Join Dr. Tom Snyder, Captain, Medical Corps, USN, ret., Co-Founder and Executive Director, The Society for the History of Navy Medicine for a PowerPoint presentation featuring the fascinating history of the Navy’s oldest hospital in the Pacific, closed in 1957 and now part of the campus of Touro University.

1:00pm-2:00pm

**Be a Biologist Photos**

Have your picture taken on the US Fish and Wildlife Service airboat in the parking lot in front of the festival. Kids and adults can put on USFWS biologist gear and pose on the airboat. The airboat will be displayed on both days.

1:30pm-2:30pm

**Birdwatcher’s Diary app presented by Steven Patt, Stevens Creek Software**

*Repeats Saturday 1:30pm*

Leave your paper checklists behind! Capture, count, map, upload and email, send to eBird, compile, search, etc. while in the field with

this fully featured iOS birding database.



Photo: Kathleen R. Fenton

2:00pm-3:00pm

**Fish Ladder for the Napa River**

Slide presentation by Bernhard Krevet and Shari Gardner, Friends of the Napa River, about the design and construction of the fish ladder at the Zinfandel Lane Bridge across the Napa River (near St Helena). This construction removed a barrier for fish in the river, that prevented salmon from reaching the upper reaches of the Napa River and its tributaries. More than 65 miles of fish habitat on the Napa River are now open, again.

2:30pm-3:00pm

**Birding with an iPhone or iPad**

**Presenter: Nigel Hall, President Appweavers, Inc. Peterson Birds of North America for iPhone and iPad**  
*Repeats Saturday, 11:00am and 1:00pm and Sunday 11:00am*

2:30pm-4:00pm

**“Bag-it” Award-winning Movie**

co-sponsored by Marissa Carlisle and Carol Poole, hosted by Napa Valley CanDo and Napa Solano Audubon Society  
*Repeats Saturday, 2:00pm*

The film “Bag It” follows “everyman” Jeb as he embarks on a global tour to unravel the complexities of our plastic world and becomes a wholesale investigation into plastic and its effect on our waterways, oceans, wildlife and our bodies. It is shocking, touching and funny. We see what we can do about it. Try going a day without plastic. Right now! *Best of Festival: Monterey Blue Oceans; Audience choice: Telluride Mountainfilm, Flagstaff Mountain, Ashland, and Wild & Scenic.* ([www.bagitmovie.com](http://www.bagitmovie.com))

# Mare Island Outings Friday February 10

8:00am-6:00pm

## San Pablo Bay Walking Trail Self-Guided Walk Hosted by Weston Solutions, Inc. and Swarovski Optik

Repeats Saturday and Sunday 8:00am-6:00pm

Explore the wetland habitats of Mare Island on a self-guided bird and wildlife viewing trail beginning at the Wildlife Expo from Building 223 if walking to the trailhead, or if driving, at the parking lot at 750 Dump Rd. the end of A St at Azuar Dr.

10:00am – 6:00pm

## Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve Self-guided Walk

Repeats Saturday and Sunday 9:00am-6:00pm

Walk or bike at your own pace as far as you like on the 1.3 mile paved road with 14 points of interest along the route to the hilltop scenic vista and beyond. Stop at the Mare Island Naval Cemetery. The Visitor Center is open. Dogs are allowed on leash.

**Directions:** From the Mare Island entrance take the first left on Nimitz and go to 15th St. Turn right and follow to Railroad Ave. Go left on Railroad Ave. Continue beyond gate. Park on left. From Marin or Napa take the Mare Island exit off of Hwy 37 and follow Walnut Ave. south to stop sign at "G" St. Turn left. Turn right at 2nd right at Nimitz Ave. Follow directions above. From the Festival headquarters travel east on Connolly St. to Nimitz Ave. Turn right and follow direction signs.



Photo: Kenn Browne

Heritage Preserve is a level 5.5 mile hike on gravel and dirt roads through pickleweed and saltmarshes, prime salt marsh harvest mouse and clapper rail habitat, out to Pier 35 on the southern tip of Mare Island. Always lots of waterfowl in San Pablo Bay. Bring drinking water, snacks and raingear. No facilities. Group must stay together; locked gate, so no early departures. Meet at corner of Nereus and Flagship Dr. Call Wally NeVille, 707-315-3545.

**Directions:** From I-80 take Tennessee St. exit west towards Mare Island. Continue on Mare Island to Azuar Dr. (at the end of G St.). Turn left. Follow Azuar to light at Flagship Dr. Turn right. Go to Nereus. along east side of Flagship Dr. From Marin, Sonoma and Napa Counties take the Mare Island exit off of Hwy 37; turn right onto Walnut Ave. to G. St. Turn right, Turn left on Azuar Dr. Follow directions above.

## 10:00am-1:30pm Mare Island Hike on the Westside of the Shoreline Heritage Preserve with Wally NeVille, birding guide and hike leader

This annual Flyway Festival hike through the Western Magazine Area of the Mare Island Shoreline



Artist: Jeffrey DeSalles

3:00pm – 4:45pm

## Photographing Panoramas with Julio Mestres

Repeats Saturday, 9:30am

Vallejo resident Julio Mestres will show you what he knows about creating panoramic photos. He will give a quick orientation of the technique used for stitching photographs and editing the resulting image by using readily available software from the internet. He'll explain what preparation is needed to obtain the image using a panohead on a tripod or a simple homemade plumb on any camera and how to obtain the required collection of sequential shots in creating the composition. Also, he will explain the use of photo editing software to highlight the resulting image, sizing the image and setting up the final composition for printing. He will also demonstrate the techniques he uses in the field. His photography is exceptional and his enthusiasm inspirational. Meet at his booth at Building 223.



Photo: Gordon McMahon

1:45pm – 5:00pm

## Mare Island Birding Hot Spots Tour

Robin Leong and Wally NeVille, Napa-Solano Audubon Society field trip leaders Get to know what's on Mare Island.

Stroll amongst "Captain's Row", Alden Park, and the grounds around St. Peter's Chapel. Learn about the people, it's historic buildings, the trees, avian fauna, and possibly, monarch butterflies. **Meet at "Outing Tent", Building 223** to form carpools. If you have a "walkie-talkie" bring it and tune to 11-22 the bird channel.

### Weather

Weather can't keep Flyway Festival folks indoors, so remember, our outings take place rain or shine. Only very heavy rain cancels outings and our Wildlife and Birding Expo is indoors.

### What to wear and bring

Plan to dress warmly! Bring binoculars, a viewing scope and camera. Weather could be sunny, foggy, windy or lightly rainy; dress for all possibilities. Only heavy rain cancels outings. Walking shoes recommended and waterproof footwear advised for some sites. Bring a snack and drinks if desired for outings. Many outing sites do not have restroom facilities.

# Mare Island Outings Saturday February 11

8:00am - 4:00pm

## American Volkssport Association 5k and 10k Volkswalk

Repeats Sunday 8:00am-4:00pm

Hosted by the Vaca Valley Volks chapter of the California and American Volkssport Associations. Route includes the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve Hilltop overlooking the island and North Bay and the oldest golf course on a military base in the West. Mostly paved roads and sidewalks. **Start 8am-12noon Saturday and/or Sunday.** Finish by 4pm. Register at **Building 223.** Anyone can walk the route at no charge. Takes place in all weather. Visit [VacaVolks.org](http://VacaVolks.org). Call Howard McGill at 707-447-9431 or email: [hiwayhowie@aol.com](mailto:hiwayhowie@aol.com)

8:00am-6:00pm

## San Pablo Bay Walking Trail Self-Guided Walk Hosted by Weston Solutions, Inc. and Swarovski Optik

Repeats Friday and Sunday 8:00am-6:00pm

See Friday 8am description and directions



## 9:00am – 11:00am Walking Tour of Historic Mare Island Naval Shipyard

Join Mare Island Historic Park docent Chris Panton for a guided walk through the heart of the former shipbuilding operations at the oldest U.S. Naval facility in the Pacific, founded in 1854 and

closed in 1996. See many

of the 500 buildings and structures that led the National Park Service to designate Mare Island as a National Historic Landmark, including Alden Park, the Captain's Row Mansions and the Drydocks and Building Ways. **Directions:** Meet at Alden Park 8th St. & Railroad Ave.

9:00am-12noon

## Volunteer at the Vallejo People's Garden

The People's Garden is a volunteer collaboration of individuals and partner organizations who promote health and wellness in the Vallejo community, grow fresh fruits and vegetables for those in need, improve the human environment by taking care of water, soil, and wildlife, and create educational opportunities for children and adults. Volunteer every Saturday 9:00am-12noon. No need to RSVP. Bring work gloves if you have them, and wear sturdy shoes. Check out [www.vallejopeoplesgarden.org](http://www.vallejopeoplesgarden.org). Contact: Amanda (707) 562-9007.

**Directions:** From the Wildlife Expo drive south on Walnut Ave. to Kansas St. Turn right, then left on Azuar Dr. Turn right on E. Poplar St. (behind 1055 Azuar Ave)

9:00am – 4:00pm

## Come Aboard the former USS LCS(L) 102 Mighty Midget Restored WWII Landing Craft Support Gunboat

Mare Island is home to the last of its kind of the 130 boats built for this purpose during WWII. Tours are free.

**Directions: From Vallejo:** cross the Causeway, an extension of Tennessee St. Turn left on Nimitz Ave. Turn left on A St. to Berth 6.

**From Marin, Sonoma and Napa Counties:** Take the Mare Island exit off of Hwy 37. Turn right and continue on Walnut Ave. to G St. Turn left two blocks and turn right onto Nimitz Ave. Follow directions



See Friday 10:am for description and directions

9:30am-12noon

## Hike the Mare Island Historic Southshore Sierra Club Hike leader Brian Collett

Repeats Sunday 9:30am

Hike along the Historic Southshore of Mare Island to Pier 35 for great views of San Pablo Bay and Carquinez Strait. Visit the Mare Island Naval Shipyard Cemetery dating from 1858, and see Great Blue Heron and Osprey nests. Level 4 mile walk on paved and gravel roads. Meet at Palmer's Hut in the Preserve. Info: Brian Collett 530-220-3121.

See Friday 10:00am for directions to the Preserve

9:45am - 11:45am

## Discover Mare Island's Historic Naval Ammunition Depot by Van Tour Trip leader– Susan Young, Weston Solutions, Inc. and former Mare Island Shipyard worker

Repeats Saturday, 11:45am and 1:45pm and Sunday, 9:45am and 11:45pm

Join this unforgettable driving tour to the scenic highest point on the "original" Mare Island. Spectacular 360 degree vista point(barring fog), view the Carquinez Strait, the San Pablo Bay Refuge and the Art Tribute dedicated to Mare Island workers. Discover the history, learn about the environmental cleanup at this unique national historical site. Pre-sign in at the Weston Solutions Exhibit. Meet at the "Outing Tent" in front of **Building 223.**



Artist: Jeffrey DeSalles

10:00am – 12noon

## Tour St. Peter's Chapel

Repeats Sunday 10:00am-4:00pm

St. Peter's Chapel, the oldest Navy chapel built in 1900, is home to the most Tiffany glass on a single site in the West.

**Directions:** Park across from Chapel Park located at the south end of Walnut Ave beyond Captain's Row mansions (right turn at end of Captain's Row onto alley, then left turn and left turn again, onto Walnut Ave northbound to parking lot). \$3.00 per person.

above. **From Contra Costa County:** Cross Benicia Martinez Bridge onto I-780. Exit I-80 eastbound towards Sacramento. Exit Tennessee St./Mare Island. Follow directions above. **From the Building 223 Wildlife Expo:** Follow Connolly St. eastbound to Nimitz Ave. Turn left. Continue on Nimitz Ave. to A St. Turn right to Berth 6.

9:00am – 6:00pm

## Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve Self-guided Walk

Repeats Friday 10:00am-6pm and Sunday 9:00am-6:00pm

# Mare Island Outings Saturday February 11 cont.

**10:00am - 4:00pm**

## **Tour of the Mare Island Museum**

*Repeats Sunday 10:00am-4:00pm*

**Directions:** The Museum is located in Building 46. Entrance across from Alden Park at 8th St. and Railroad Ave. Donation: \$3 per person.

**10:30am-11:00am**

## **Grand-opening and ribbon cutting Mare Island San Pablo Bay Wetlands Trail**

Join Mayor Osby Davis (invited), representatives of Weston Solutions, Inc. Festival Host Sponsor for more than a decade and trail manager, and Festival Coordinator Myrna Hayes with fellow members of the Mare Island Restoration Advisory Board who advocated for the trail also for more than a decade.

**See directions Friday 8:00am description**

**11:45am - 1:45pm**

## **Discover the Historic Naval Ammunition Depot by Van Tour**

**Trip leader– Susan Young, Weston Solutions, Inc. and former Mare Island Shipyard worker**

*Repeats Saturday, 9:45am and 1:45pm and Sunday, 9:45am and 11:45am*

**See Saturday 9:45am for description and directions**

**12noon-3:00pm**

## **Guadalupe Village Wetland Restoration Shorebird Observation**

*Repeats Sunday, 12noon-3:00pm*

Join Refuge volunteer Sheila Byrne Ph.D to view the Caltrans Guadalupe Village wetland restoration.

Information about the restoration and telescopes for shorebird viewing provided. A Refuge van shuttle will leave from the "Outing Tent" in front of **Building 223** every 30 minutes for transport to and from the site, or drive and park. **Driving Directions from**

**Festival Expo:** Travel north on Railroad Ave. to flashing stoplight at G St. Continue through the North Gate. Make immediate left onto Highway 37 overpass. Turn left into parking lot.

## **12noon-5:00pm Open Studios and Empress Theater 100th Anniversary Gallery Show at The Coal Shed Studios**

*Repeats Sunday 12noon-5:00pm*

A group of 19 artists at the Coal Shed Studio located in one of the historic coal sheds along the Napa River/Mare Island Strait, will have their gallery open for a special exhibit honoring the 100th anniversary of the Empress Theater in Vallejo. Some artists will be at work in their studios.

**Directions:** Studios and gallery are located on Waterfront Ave one block east of Wildlife Expo on Connolly to Nimitz Ave, then one block south to 4th St.; continue one block east to Waterfront Ave.

**1:00pm-2:00pm**

## **Mare Island San Pablo Bay Walking Trail Birding Hike**

**Leaders Brian Collett, Sierra Club hike leader and Wally NeVile, Napa-Solano Audubon Society field guide**

This trail was completed by Festival and Trail Host Weston Solutions in December 2010 and its grand opening is this weekend. **(See Saturday 10:30am ribbon-cutting description)** Explore the western edge of Mare Island adjacent to the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge on more than 2 miles of new trails that border



**1:30-3:30pm**

## **Mushroom Identification and Ecology**

Join Jake Rugyt, California Native Plant Society-Napa Chapter field trip leader for a native plant and mushroom scouting outing on Mare Island. Learn about mushroom identification and ecology and explore Mare Island's remarkable native plant communities still being "discovered" on the unique "island habitat" of the former military base. Weather will affect mushroom appearance! Meet at the "Outing Tent" at the front of **Building 223** to form a carpool.

**1:45pm - 3:45pm**

## **Discover Mare Island's Historic Naval Ammunition Depot by Van Tour**

**Trip leader– Susan Young, Weston Solutions, Inc. and former Mare Island Shipyard worker**

*Repeats Saturday, 9:45am and 11:45am and Sunday, 9:45am and 11:45am*

**See Saturday 9:45am for description and directions**

**2:30pm-3:30pm**

## **Bird walk with journaling for children**

**Leader: Beverly Black, Napa-Solano Audubon Society**

Make a nature treasure map, learn to draw birds, and discover other sketching techniques to use when out in nature. Children will strengthen their observational skills by writing about and sketching what they observe. Start a lifelong passion-nature journaling! For children ages 7–12. Journal & pencils provided. Led by educator Beverly Black. No fee nor preregistration required. Meet at Napa-Solano Audubon Society booth.



Photo: Tim Baskerville

the Pacific Coast. At one point in its history, more than 40,000 men and women worked at the island's drydocks, shops and warehouses, all making for interesting night photography. Tuition and Registration: This is a FREE introductory Night Photography workshop - offered by The Nocturnes and the SF Bay Flyway Festival on Saturday February 11, 2012. To register - fill out our **Registration Form** and send or FAX it to Pacific Media Arts (form must be received no later than February 6th). To speak to a live person, call Susan Nichols at Pacific Media Arts - (707) 645-9860.

**6:00pm - 10:00pm**

## **Free Introductory Night Photography Workshop on Mare Island**

**With Tim Baskerville, Founder/Director of The Nocturnes**

**Location:** Mare Island Naval Shipyard, established in 1854, was the first naval facility on

# Mare Island Outings Sunday February 12

8:00am - 4:00pm

## **American Volkssport Association 5k and 10k Volkswalk**

*Repeats Saturday 8:00am-4:00pm*

*See Saturday 8:00am description and directions*

8:00am-6:00pm

## **San Pablo Bay Walking Trail Self-Guided Walk Hosted by Weston Solutions, Inc. and Swarovski Optik**

*Repeats Friday and Saturday 8:00am-6:00pm*

*See Friday 8:00am description and directions*

9:00am - 6:00pm

## **Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve Self-guided Walk**

*Repeats Friday 10:00am-6:00pm and Saturday 9:00am-6:00pm*

*See Friday 10:00am description and directions*

9:30am - 12noon

## **Mare Island Historic Southshore Walk**

**With hike leader**

*Repeats Saturday 9:30am with Brian Collett*

*See Saturday 9:30am description and directions*

9:45am - 11:45am

## **Discover Mare Island's Historic Naval Ammunition Depot by Van Tour**

**Trip leader– Susan Young, Weston Solutions, Inc. and former Mare Island Shipyard worker**

*Repeats Saturday, 9:45am, 11:45am and 1:45pm and Sunday, 11:45am*

*See Saturday 9:45am description and directions*

11:00am-3:00pm

## **History of the Mare Island Naval Cemetery Docent-led Tour**

Join Cemetery Docent Peggy O'Drain at the Mare Island Naval Cemetery, the Navy's oldest cemetery in the Pacific founded in 1858. Peggy is researching for a book about its history and those buried there, including the first recorded burial, Quartermaster

George Dowd of the USS Massachusetts, on February 12, 1856 – 156 years ago this very Sunday. The focus of her tours this year is the recent discoveries she has made including finding the grave of a Buffalo Soldier and information from WWI Draft registration cards for the last section "E" of burials from 1910-1921. Learn

more about the cemetery and the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve where it is located by visiting [www.mareislandpreserve.org](http://www.mareislandpreserve.org)

*See Friday 10am directions*

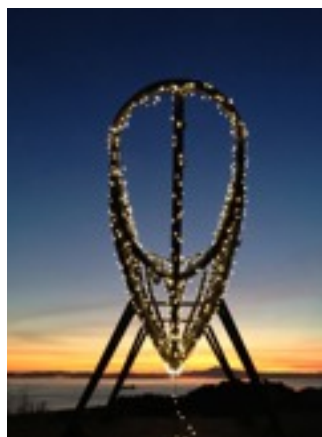
10:00am – 4:00pm

## **Tour St. Peter's Chapel and Mare Island Museum**

*Museum tour repeats Saturday 10:00am-4:00pm, St. Peter's Chapel is open Saturday, 10:00am-12noon*

St. Peter's Chapel, the oldest Navy chapel built in 1900, is home to the most Tiffany glass on a single site in the West.

**Directions:** Park across from Chapel Park located at the south end of Walnut Ave beyond Captain's Row mansions (right turn at end of Captain's Row onto alley, then left turn and left turn again around traffic circle, onto Walnut Ave. northbound to parking lot). \$3.00 per person for each site.



11:45am - 1:45pm

## **Discover Mare Island's Historic Naval Ammunition Depot by Van Tour**

**Trip leader– Susan Young, Weston Solutions, Inc. and former Mare Island Shipyard worker**

*Repeats Saturday, 9:45am, 11:45am and 1:45pm and Sunday, 9:45am*

*See Saturday 9:45am for description and directions*

12noon-3:00pm

## **Guadalcanal Village Wetland Restoration Shorebird Observation**

*Repeats Saturday, 12noon-3:00pm*

*See Saturday 12noon for description and directions*

## **12noon-5:00pm Open Studios and Empress Theater 100th Anniversary Gallery Show at The Coal Shed Studios**

*Repeats Saturday 12noon-5:00pm*

*See Saturday 12noon description and directions*

2:00pm-2:45pm

## **Tour of Historic Mare Island Naval Hospital Complex Grounds**

Also view a PowerPoint discussion given Saturday 3:00pm and Sunday, 1:00pm-1:45pm and 3:00pm-3:45pm at the Wildlife Expo, Building 223

*See Saturday 3:00pm description*

Join Dr. Tom Snyder, Captain, Medical Corps, USN, ret., Co-Founder and Executive Director, The Society for the History of Navy Medicine for a fascinating and oft asked about history of the Navy's oldest hospital in the Pacific, closed in 1957 and now part of the campus of Touro University. **Directions:** Park in Touro University Library parking lot at 1545 Azuar Dr. near corner of 15th St. and Azuar Dr. Meet at the entrance to the Library on Moises Way, on the west side of the Library in front of the Hospital grounds. Dr. Snyder will be recognizable by his Panama hat!



Photo: Gerry Cortez

# Regional Outings Friday February 10

**8:00am-6:00pm**

## **Self-guided walk on Lower Tubbs Island and Tolay Creek Trail Loop to San Pablo Bay in the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge**

*Repeats Saturday and Sunday 8:00am-5:00pm*

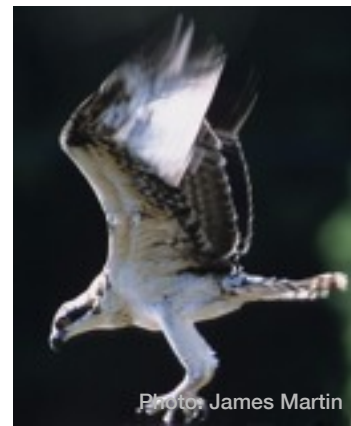
The trail offers hiking, fishing, photography, wildlife viewing and biking opportunities. Parking lot is located at the trailhead. The complete Lower Tubbs Island Trail loop is 8.15 miles. If it has been raining the trail may be quite muddy. **Directions:** Entrance to Trail is located off of east bound Highway 37, just east of the Highway 121/37 intersection in Sonoma County.

**9:00am-1:00pm**

## **Skaggs Island Raptor outings are back!**

*Repeats Friday, 12noon-3:00pm with John Robinson, Saturday 12:00noon-4:00pm with Murray Berner and 3:30pm-6:00pm with Brian Collett and friends and Sunday, 9:00am-1:00pm with Murray Berner*

This year we return to our beloved Skaggs Island with Murray Berner, the Napa area's most experienced field trip leader, to visit one of the North Bay's premiere locations for wintering and resident raptors. The former naval facility is now a unit of the San Pablo Bay



National Wildlife Refuge, and has been cleared of 140 buildings and most of its trees, leaving a vast grassland to concentrate foraging hawks, eagles, kites, falcons and owls. It is the most reliable area location to find Rough-legged Hawk, Prairie Falcon, and Short-eared Owl. The owls are concentrated here this winter, with up to 18 reported in January. The late afternoon field trip is the best opportunity to see the owl, but it should be seen on all trips. In

the past, Festival visits regularly found each of the four winter resident falcon species. This year it is not unusual to record combined counts of 30-40 Northern Harriers, White-tailed Kites and Red-tailed Hawks aloft simultaneously. Among these will be such scarce birds as Ferruginous Hawk and Merlin. In addition, the grassland and wetland habitats host a variety of wintering marsh and songbirds. We should hear a few rails and see the locally declining Loggerhead Shrike. We will tour the island by auto caravan with numerous stops to scan the sky and fence posts for raptors. Full vehicles are encouraged. Once on the island, the gate will be locked and you will not be able to leave early. This part of refuge is remote, bring water and sunscreen, and use the restroom facilities before leaving for the Skaggs Island tour. All ages and levels of birding experience welcomed. This is a rain or shine outing, only heavy rain cancels.

**Carpool information: Carpools are required! From Vallejo, Napa and East Bay:** participants should gather at the Wildlife Expo at Building 223 Outing Tent on Mare Island one-half hour beforehand to form carpools. **From Marin and Sonoma:** meet at the Skaggs Island gate to consolidate into carpools.

**Directions:** From Napa, Vallejo & East Bay: Meet at the Flyway Festival Wildlife Expo Building 223 Outing Tent to form carpools. **From Marin and Sonoma Counties:** travel eastbound on Highway 37 five miles beyond the light at Sears Point/Infineon Raceway. Turn left onto Skaggs Island Road. Continue along road and over bridge to gate.



Photo: Bob Dyer

**9:30am – 12noon**

## **Ellis Creek Wetlands Tour Led by Park docents with viewing scopes, Petaluma Wetlands Alliance**

*Repeats Saturday, 9:30am*

This annual Flyway Festival tour along a relatively new 2-mile trail around 30 acres of polishing wetlands opened to the public for the first time in the summer of 2009. See migratory duck and possibly unusual species that have been spotted: the Swamp Sparrow, Tundra Swan and Greater White-fronted Goose. Sora and Virginia Rail have been observed around the

pond edges. [www.petalumawetlandspark.org](http://www.petalumawetlandspark.org)

**Directions:** From Hwy 37, turn north onto Lakeville Hwy and left at 2nd signal, South McDowell Blvd. Directions: From Hwy 37, turn north on Lakeville Hwy and left at 2nd signal, South McDowell Blvd. Drive one-half mile to Cypress Drive and follow to the entrance of the Ellis Creek Water Recycling Facility where the tour starts. Sign-ups not required. Call Gerald Moore with questions, 707-763-3577.

**12noon-3:00pm**

## **Skaggs Island Raptor outings are back!**

**Field Guide: John C. Robinson**

*Repeats Friday, 9:00am-1:00pm, Saturday, 12noon-4:00pm and 3:30-6:00pm and Sunday, 9:00am-1:00pm*

A professional ornithologist, keynote speaker, and environmental consultant, John C. Robinson published six books about nature and birds and has led professional birding and natural history tours. For over 30 years, John worked as an ornithological biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service. John is an advocate for minorities in birdwatching and nature and has spent the last 13 years conducting research on how to connect our youth and young adults to nature through the magic of bird watching. Currently he speaks about his most recent book, *Birding for Everyone: Encouraging People of Color to Become Birdwatchers*; and is working with Toyota and National Audubon Society as a **Together Green Fellow** to help inspire 1000 children from underserved communities in Ohio and California to discover the world of nature and the great outdoors.



**2:00pm – 3:00pm**

## **Suisun Wildlife Center Tour**

The Suisun Marsh Natural History Association presents a tour of its Suisun Wildlife Center, which rescues and releases back to the wild Solano County wildlife. Go behind the scenes to learn how injured wildlife is helped. See non-releasable education birds and animals—a Golden Eagle, a recently acquired Coyote, Great-horned owl and more. Limit: 30 participants. To preregister call 707-429-4295. Directions: From I-80: exit at Hwy 12 in Fairfield—near the Budweiser Brewery. Travel East on Hwy 12 toward Suisun for 3 miles to the first exit AFTER the Pennsylvania St. exit. Exit at the Civic Center Blvd/Suisun City Business District exit. Turn left onto Main St. Proceed to stop sign past downtown. Turn left onto Cordelia Rd. Take next right to 1171 Kellogg St.

# Regional Outings Saturday February 11

**5:30am – 6:45am**

## **A Railing We Will Go!**

Have you heard of owling and been? What about railing? Join Robin Leong for an early morning search for the voices of these elusive and rare residents of American Canyon Wetlands. Probable candidates are Sora, Virginia, Black and California Clapper Rails. Heavy rain cancels.

**See Saturday 11:00am driving directions**

**8:30am – 11:00am**

## **Birding American Canyon from Wetlands to the Quarry**

Robin Leong, Napa Solano Audubon Society field guide leads a morning of birding from American Canyon Wetlands to look for waterfowl and shorebirds, to American Canyon Quarry to look for raptors.

**See Friday 8:00am directions**

**8:45am – 12noon**

## **Birding at Bahia**

### **Marin Audubon Society Field Trip Leader, Lowell Sykes**

Rare blue oak woodlands bordering salt marsh habitat. Shallow, newly restored fresh water ponds & tidal marshes provide excellent habitat for diverse assemblage of birds. Expect to see migratory shorebirds,



Photo: Kathleen R. Fenton

waterfowl, diving birds and raptors, as well as land birds on the adjacent oak woodlands and grasslands. All levels welcome.

**Directions:** From Hwy 101 in Novato, take Atherton Ave exit, go east, and turn left onto Bugeia Drive, which becomes Bahia Drive. Park at the end of Bahia Drive. From Hwy 37, take Atherton Ave. exit, travel north on Atherton Avenue & follow directions above. For information, call 415-388-2821. Heavy rain cancels.

**9:00am-12noon**

## **Volunteer on the Ridge Trail Blue Rock Springs Park/Vallejo-Swett Ranch**

Join Solano Land Trust and the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council to help maintain the Blue Rock Springs Park connector trail. Views of the bay from this ridgeline trail are spectacular. In the future the Ridge Trail will cross the ranch and connect with the Hiddenbrooke open space. RSVP(707) 432-0150 x 207 or [sue@solanolandtrust.org](mailto:sue@solanolandtrust.org). Bring backpack with ample water, snacks and heavy work gloves. Wear boots or sturdy closed-toe shoes with tread for rough, steep, and slippery terrain and long, sturdy pants and layered clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. Protect from sun, wind, fog and rain. Directions: Meet at upper parking lot of Blue Rock Springs Park, Vallejo. **DIRECTIONS**

**9:00am-4:00pm**

## **Self-guided bird walk American Canyon Wetlands**

*Repeats Sunday 9:00am-4:00pm*

Expert volunteer members of the Napa Solano Audubon Society with viewing scopes will offer self-guided bird walks with viewing stations. Visit the welcome table with interpretive brochures, educational handouts, a trail guide and children's activities.

**Directions:** Welcome table at the corner of Eucalyptus Drive and Wetlands Edge Road. **See Friday 8:00am for driving directions.**



**9:30am-11:30pm**

## **Eco-walk at Green Island Unit, Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area**

Join biologists Karen Taylor, CA Department of Fish and Game and Francesca Demgen, URS Corp. at the newly restored 1,400 acre Napa salt ponds for a low tide bird walk and fish facts.

**Directions:** Meet at 9:30am at the site. From Highway 29 in American Canyon, turn onto Paoli Loop Road/ Green Island Road. (From south turn

onto Paoli Loop Road .08 miles north of Walmart and follow Paoli Loop under Hwy 29). At stop sign turn left onto Green Island Road and proceed straight for .9 miles. At 2nd stop sign turn left on Green Island Road, just turns go straight for one long block and follow Green Island Road as it turns left. Continue on Green Island Rd. approximately 1.4 miles to end turn left into the park driveway at sign that says Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area, Green Island Unit. Follow the driveway around to the parking lot.

**9:30am – 12noon**

## **Ellis Creek Wetlands Tour**

**Led by Park docents with viewing scopes, Petaluma Wetlands Alliance**  
*Repeats Friday, 9:30am*

Annual Flyway Festival tour along a 2-mile trail around 30 acres of polishing wetlands opened to the public in 2009. See migratory duck and possibly unusual species that have been spotted: Swamp Sparrow, Tundra Swan and Greater White-fronted Goose. Sora and Virginia Rail have been observed around the pond edges.

[www.petalumawetlandspark.org](http://www.petalumawetlandspark.org)

**Directions:** From Hwy 37, turn north on Lakeville Hwy and left at 2nd signal, South McDowell Blvd. Drive one-half mile to Cypress Drive and follow to the entrance of the Ellis Creek Water Recycling Facility where the tour starts. Sign-ups not required. Call Gerald Moore with questions, 707-763-3577.



Photo: John Klycinski

**9:30am-12noon**

## **Community Service Visitor Center, Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Fremont**

If you are interested in improving the refuge for visitors and for wildlife alike, join us at the Visitor Center for a community service project. We will do either a trash cleanup or a planting/weeding project. Dress appropriately for the task and for the weather. We will have gloves to lend and will provide the tools. Bring your own water bottle. Meet in the parking lot at the Visitor Center. Driving an additional 2.5 miles may be required since the project may be a different location. For more information, or to make reservations, call 510-792-0222 ext. 363.

# Regional Outings Saturday February 11 cont.

10:00am – 12noon

## Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge Docent Tour

Join Docent Michael Krieg to learn about three endangered species on this refuge that occur nowhere else in the world – Lange's metalmark butterfly, Contra Costa wallflower and Antioch Dunes evening primrose. Arrive early to enter Refuge for tour as an escorted group. No late arrivals or early departures.

**Directions:** Take Hwy 4 east to Lone Tree/A Street exit in Antioch. Travel north on A Street, turn right on Wilbur Avenue, turn left on Fulton Shipyard Road, follow sign to gate at 501 Fulton Rd.

10:00am – 12noon

## Sonoma Baylands Tidal Wetland Birding Walk

Meet San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge Biologist Meg Marriott to view and learn about wetland transition zone restoration in this developing marsh habitat and plans after addition to the Refuge, for these 348 acre tidal wetlands constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1995.

**Directions:** Turn south off Hwy 37 at Port Sonoma Marina, follow the directional signs.

10:00am-12noon

## Cullinan Ranch Restoration Tour with Refuge Manager

*Repeats Sunday 10am-12noon*

What's that long pile of dirt along Highway 37!?!? Come join Don Brubaker, Manager, Antioch Dunes, Marin Islands, and San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuges for a walk from the Vista Point off Walnut Avenue overpass over Hwy 37 to the protection levee for the Cullinan Ranch Restoration project. Birdwatch along the way. Learn about the Caltrans Guadalcanal Village Wetland Restoration and the 1,500-acre restoration of Cullinan Ranch.

10:00am-12noon

## Gardening at the EEC - Community Service Environmental Education Center, Alviso

Come help in our native plant garden by removing non-native plants, pruning, mulching, or various other jobs that help protect wildlife and clean up our gardens. We'll be starting preparations for planting native species. Bring your own gloves or borrow a pair of ours – tools are provided. Dress in layers and bring water and sunscreen. Be prepared to get dirty! Ages 9 and up. Participants 18 and under must be accompanied by a chaperone. Call Debra for reservations at 408-262-5513 ext. 102.

11:00am-12noon

## Beginning Birding for Families at American Canyon Wetlands

*Repeats Saturday 1:00pm and Sunday 11:00am and 1:00pm*

Napa Solano Audubon Society Field Guides offer a one hour guided Beginning Bird Walk for children and families. Learn the value of wetland habitats and how to locate & identify birds. (binoculars provided); No fee or preregistration. Meet at the welcome table at corner of Eucalyptus Drive and Wetlands Edge Road.

**Directions:** Meet at the parking lot at the corner of Eucalyptus Drive and Wetlands Edge Road. **From Highway 29 coming from Vallejo:** turn left on West American Canyon Road. Drive to the end and turn right on Wetlands Edge Road. Drive to the end and turn left on Eucalyptus Drive. **Coming from Napa:** turn right on Rio Del Mar, make a sharp right on Eucalyptus Drive, and drive to the end.

12noon-4:00pm

## Skaggs Island Raptor outings are back!

Field Guide: Murray Berner

*Repeats Friday, 9:00am-1:00pm and 12noon-3:00pm, Saturday, 3:30pm-6:00pm and Sunday, 9:00am-1:00pm*

**See Friday 9:00am directions**

1:00pm-2:00pm

## Beginning Birding for Families at American Canyon Wetlands

*Repeats Saturday 11:00am and Sunday 11:00am and 1:00pm*

**See Saturday 11:00am description and directions**

1:00pm-3:00pm

## Winter Birds in a Restored Salt Pond Ravenswood Unit (SF2), Menlo Park

Bid good-bye to the overwintering shorebirds and waterfowl before they leave San Francisco Bay to return to their northern nesting grounds. Docent Jane Moss will lead you on a 1.5 mile round-trip hike along Don Edwards Refuge's newest interpretive trail and introduce you to the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project. Trail is easy and level. All ages and abilities welcome. Meet at the Ravenswood Point parking area on the west side of the Dumbarton Bridge. For information and directions, call 510-792-0222 ext. 139.

1:00pm - 3:00pm

## Pond 1/Cullinan Ranch Levee Ecology of the North Bay Walk

Join wetland biologist Francesca Demgen, Friends of San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge for a walk on the levee between two important north bay habitats: shallow, managed pond and seasonal wetland. Potential to see hundreds of shorebirds and ducks foraging and resting in Pond 1 and song birds and raptors over the seasonal wetland. Learn how pickleweed and ducks can both "drink" salt water and about the thousands of acres of wetland restoration between the Napa and Petaluma Rivers. Meet at the Outing Tent, Building 223, Mare Island to form carpools for 5 minute drive to site.

1:30pm – 3:00pm

## All About Owls, Environmental Education Center, Alviso

Learn all that you've ever wanted to learn about owls here at the refuge! Where do owls eat? How do we not hear them when they flap their wings? Are owls the brainiacs of the bird world? Through an interactive presentation and owl pellet dissection, we'll find the answers to all these questions. Paul Bridges will lead the way. Call Debra at 408-262-5513 ext. 102 for reservations.

2:00pm-3:00pm

## Oh Where, Oh Where is the Little Grey Fox?

### Don Edwards SF Bay NWR Visitor Center, Fremont

Come learn about the California grey fox, the only canine which can climb trees with Docent Roy Sasai. What do they look like? Where do they live? What do they eat? Where have they been seen? What's in our habitat that makes them unique to the Bay Area? Program is a 1-mile hike on level terrain. Dress warmly, bring binoculars and rain gear.

3:30pm-6:00pm

## Skaggs Island Raptor outings are back!

Field Guide: Naturalist Brian Collett and Friends

*Repeats Friday, 9:00am-1:00pm and 12 noon-3:00pm, Saturday, 12noon-4:00pm and Sunday, 9:00am-1:00pm*

Brian is a popular Flyway Festival and Mare Island naturalist guide. This is the prime time of day for raptor hunting and owl viewing.

**See Friday 9:00am description and directions**



Photo: Kathleen R. Fenton

# Regional Outings Sunday, February 12

**9:00am – 11:45am**

## **Tour the New Hamilton Field Wetlands Restoration Project**

Come join Eric Jolliffe, Biologist for the Army Corps of Engineers, on a tour of one of the largest wetlands restoration projects in the country. Discover the species of waterfowl that are now making these new wetlands their home. Eric, along with other representatives, will provide the background on the wetlands restoration project, allowing an opportunity to view the shorebirds, raptors and other inhabitants, and to review the new vegetation that will be part of the various zones in the wetlands. There will also be an opportunity to learn about the public's participation in planting the new wetlands with native species, currently being grown within the wetland's own nursery.

Located in Novato within the Hamilton Field community and not yet open to the public. Maximum of 20 participants. Reservations required. Contact Harvey Abernathy, tour facilitator, at 415-385-0054 or email [harveya@nightdayphotos.com](mailto:harveya@nightdayphotos.com) to get on the list of attendees. Notification of meeting location will be provided to participants who are signed up. Bring your binoculars, scopes and cameras!

**9:00am-1:00pm**

## **Skaggs Island Raptor outings are back!**

**Field Guide: Murray Berner**

*Repeats Friday, 9:00am-1:00pm and 12noon-3:00pm and Saturday, 12noon-4:00pm and 3:30-6:00pm*

**See Friday 9:00am description and directions**

**10:00am-12noon**

## **Cullinan Ranch Restoration Tour with Refuge Manager**

*Repeats Saturday 10:00am-12noon*

**See Saturday 10:00am description and directions**

**10:00am-12noon**

## **Cullinan Ranch Eco-Walk, San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge**

Join biologists Francesca Demgen, Justin Whitfield and Tammy Lin and Friends of San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge for bird viewing and discussion about the wetland restoration work underway at Cullinan Ranch a 1,500 acre former oat hay ranch on Highway 37, and now part of the Refuge. Not normally open to the public. No facilities. Meet at Cullinan Ranch.

**Directions:** From Vallejo travel west on Hwy 37 towards Marin County. Ranch is 1.5 miles west of the Napa River Bridge. Turn right and follow signs to parking area on grass. From Marin or Sonoma: travel east towards Vallejo on Hwy 37. Take the Mare Island Exit, cross over Hwy 37 on the overpass and proceed west 1.5 miles. Turn right and follow Vallejo directions.

**10:00am-1:00pm**

## **Sears Point Cougar Mountain Hike**

Hike the hilly grasslands of Sears Point with Julian Meisler, Baylands Program Manager for Sonoma Land Trust, to learn about habitat conservation and restoration at Sears Point and surrounding lands and take in the wonderful views of San Pablo Bay to San Francisco, Mt. Diablo, and Mt. Tamalpais on a clear day. Hike is over steep and uneven terrain. Wear sturdy shoes. Meet at the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters.

**Directions:** From Napa/Sonoma: travel from Hwy 12/121 through light at Sears Point to light at Lakeville Hwy. Make U-turn at light. Refuge is .25 miles on right.

**From Vallejo:** travel west on Hwy 37 to Lakeville Hwy light. Follow directions above. **From Marin:** travel eastbound on Hwy 37, Refuge is .25 miles on right after Lakeville Hwy light. Turn right into the driveway of an old dairy farm— there are no refuge signs but there will be cones at the entrance.

**10:00am-2:00pm**

## **Lynch Canyon Eagles, Hawks and Other Birds of Prey Hike**

Raptor expert Larry Broderick leads a tour to discover and learn about eagles, hawks and other majestic birds of prey. Learn about bird identification, behavior and ecology. Special visit as **Lynch Canyon is otherwise closed for the winter**. Bring water, snacks and binoculars. Wear layered clothes and sturdy shoes. Be prepared for sun, wind, fog and rain. All ages welcome. Must be able to hike four miles at a moderate pace, up and down steep hills. No dogs. Donation suggested, but not required. \$5 parking fee. Heavy rain cancels. Call Larry at 707-975-7047 if the weather is uncertain. RSVP requested, but not required: Natalie at 707-432-0150 x200 (office), 415-517-2624 (cell), [volunteer@solanolandtrust.org](mailto:volunteer@solanolandtrust.org). See more details on [Solano Land Trust calendar](#).

**Directions:** From I-80 westbound, exit American Canyon Rd. Cross overpass and turn left onto McGary Road. Continue to Lynch Canyon Rd. Go under freeway to entrance gate and parking lot. From I-80 eastbound, exit at American Canyon Rd./Hiddenbrooke. Turn right, then left onto McGary Rd. and follow directions above.

**11:00am-12noon**

## **Beginning Birding for Families at American Canyon Wetlands**

*Repeats Saturday 11:00am and 1:00pm and Sunday 1:00pm*

**See Saturday 11:00am description and directions**

**2:00pm – 3:30pm**

## **Mysteries of Wastewater Treatment Environmental Education Center, Alviso**

The San Jose-Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant treats hundreds of millions of gallons of wastewater from millions of people every day using some of the most advanced treatment technologies available. Come and learn about what it takes to make this interesting process happen through a slideshow and hands-on activities at the refuge.

**RESERVATIONS**

**RECOMMENDED – All Ages**

are welcome. Call Eric at 408-262-5513 ext. 104. (This program DOES NOT include a tour of the Water Pollution Control Plant.)

**2:00pm – 3:30pm**

## **The Salt Marshes: Then and Now Don Edwards SF Bay NWR Visitor Center, Fremont**

Approximately 85% of San Francisco Bay's wetlands have disappeared over the last 200 years due to industry and development, impacting the wildlife that lived in and around them. Some of the plants and animals have made a come-back. Learn the history of the salt marshes and the plant and animal life affected by the changes. The presentation includes a slideshow in the pavilion followed by an optional walk (approximately 45 minutes, weather permitting) to view a salt marsh and the remains of a salt evaporation pond. Led by Gregg Aronson. Call 510-792-0222 ext. 363 for reservations.



Photo: John Klycinski

# Sponsors, Lodging, Travel Directions and Birding Information

## Travel Directions

### Bus and BART

Vallejo Express BARTLink bus between El Cerrito Del Norte BART station and Vallejo daily every 30 minutes. Visit website or call for additional information. At the Vallejo Ferry Terminal transfer (free) to #5 Redwood bus to the Mare Island main gate. Buses accommodate bikes. Casual carpool(as in hitchhike!) or walk from Mare Island entrance to Festival site. Call 707-648-4666 M-F 8am-5:30pm or visit [www.vallejotransit.com](http://www.vallejotransit.com).

### Ferry/Express Bus to/from SF Ferry Building

The Vallejo Ferry and Express Route 200 supplemental bus service to and from San Francisco Ferry Building from Vallejo Ferry terminal is approximately 1 hour. Vallejo Ferry departs San Francisco Ferry Building weekdays 12 times and 3 times per day on weekends. Bikes allowed on ferries and buses. Tickets must be purchased in advance at Bay Crossings-SF Ferry Building and Vallejo Ferry Terminal. One-way fares: \$13 for adults, \$6.50 for youth, senior, disabled. Roundtrip Daypass for Vallejo ferry, local Vallejo buses and BARTLink 80 service to and from El Cerrito Del Norte BART fares; \$24 for adults. Senior (65+), youth (6-12) and disabled, \$13. Age 5 and under: free. Call 877-64-FERRY or visit [www.baylinkferry.com](http://www.baylinkferry.com).

To pre-arrange transportation to and from Vallejo Ferry terminal to Festival: Call 707-249-9633.

### Taxi Service

707-643-3333 or 707-642-4421 upon arrival in Vallejo

## Auto Access to Mare Island

**From I-80 east or westbound:** Exit Tennessee St., continue west to the entrance to Mare Island. Follow Festival signs.

**From Napa and Sonoma:** Travel south on Highway 29 to Tennessee St., turn right and follow directions above.

**From Contra Costa County:** Cross the Benicia-Martinez Bridge on I-680. Take I-780 west toward Benicia and Vallejo. Continue on I-780 for approximately 7 miles. Exit at I-80 east. Continue on I-80 toward Sacramento. Exit on Tennessee St. and follow directions above.

**From Marin and Sonoma:** Travel east on Highway 37 to the Mare Island exit just before the Napa River Bridge. Turn right at the north entrance to Mare Island; continue to Festival.

**For additional information call:** 707-649-WING(9464) or 707-249-9633  
[SFBayFlywayFestival.com](http://SFBayFlywayFestival.com)  
[www.MareIslandPreserve.org](http://www.MareIslandPreserve.org)

All events are open to the public and free of charge—unless otherwise noted. Some activities require pre-registration.

Thanks to the City of Vallejo, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and Lennar Mare Island for use of the facilities on Mare Island and Skaggs Island.

**For information about local birding, check out these websites:**

- \*[www.birdingonthe.net](http://www.birdingonthe.net)
- \*<http://fog.ccsf.cc.ca.us/~jmorlan/>
- \*[www.napasolanoaudubon.com/EBird/Explorer](http://www.napasolanoaudubon.com/EBird/Explorer)

**Northern California BirdBox phone:** 415-681-7422

## Lodging

### Vallejo

**Best Western Inn:** 707-554-9655; 877-554-9655

**Comfort Inn:** 707-648-1400

**America's Best Value Inn:** 707-554-8000

**Courtyard by Marriot Vallejo/Napa Valley:** 707-644-1200; 800-321-2211

**Fairgrounds Dr. Motel 6:** 707-642-7781; 800-466-8356

**Howard Johnson Inn and Suites:** 707-643-1061; 800-424-6423

**Marineworld Pkwy Motel 6:** 707-643-7611; 800-466-8356

**Ramada Inn:** 707-643-2700; 800-272-6232

### American Canyon

**Doubletree by Hilton Hotel and Spa Napa Valley-American Canyon:** 707-674-2100

**Holiday Inn Express and Suites:** 707-552-8100; 1-888-866-6970

## RV & Campground

**Skyline Wilderness Park, Napa:** 707-252-0481

**Mare Island:** New this year! Want to tent camp, bunker camp or self-contained RV camp in the wilds of Mare Island? We have undeveloped areas at the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve at the southern end of the island that will work for overnight camping during the Festival weekend. RV camp in our parking area and tent camp in the field adjacent to our Visitors Center. Non-potable water only, group campfire site, portable restrooms. A few more remote indoor bunker or outdoor tent camping with no amenities—just great views! Contact Myrna Hayes, phone: 707-249-9633 or email [myrnahay@pacbell.net](mailto:myrnahay@pacbell.net)

### Festival Host

(\$5,000 and up)

Weston Solutions, Inc.



### Major Sponsors

(\$1,000 - \$1,999)

Swarovski Optik of North America  
Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District  
Vallejo Watershed Alliance  
Lennar Mare Island In-kind  
Island Energy In-kind

### Festival Supporters

(\$500 to \$999)

Valero Benicia Refinery  
Crockett Cogeneration  
Internet Services Inc. In-kind

### Festival Donors

(\$250 to \$499)

Napa Solano Audubon Society  
San Francisco Bay Joint Venture  
Vallejo Convention and Visitors Bureau In-kind  
Whole Foods - Napa In-kind

### Festival Friends (\$100 to \$249)

Appweavers, Inc. Peterson Birds of North America for iPhone and iPad  
Bay Area Bee Company in-kind  
Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge  
Congressman Mike Thompson in-kind  
Down Window Press In-kind  
Friends of San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge  
Friends of the Napa River  
Friends of the Swainson's Hawk  
Robin Leong  
Marin Audubon Society  
Out of this World Discount Binoculars In-kind  
Point Reyes National Seashore Association  
Reyes Paintings In-kind  
Saintsbury Winery In-kind  
Save San Pablo Baylands In-kind  
Vaca Valley Volks  
Wild Bryde Jewelry In-kind