

**Upcoming Events**  
**for**  
**July Through**  
**October 2007:**

*Unless otherwise noted  
events are to be held at the  
Center.*

**Community**

**Education Basics**

*Call the Center at  
523-BIRD to be added  
to the list.*

**Field Rescue**

*Sun., July 8th, 6:30pm  
Call the Center at  
523-BIRD to reserve a spot.*

**Volunteer Orientations**

*Tues., July 10, 7pm  
Sun., July 15, 3:00pm  
Sat., August 4th, 3:00pm  
Call the Center at  
523-BIRD with any  
questions.*

**Fall Raptor Lecture Series**

*Held at Hidden Valley  
School at 7:00pm*

*Fri., Oct. 12*

*Fri., Oct. 19*

*Fri., Oct. 26*

*Fri., Nov. 2*

*Fri., Nov. 9*

*Call the Center at  
523-BIRD with any  
questions.*

## ***Presidents' Message***

Well, Baby bird season has not only arrived, it is here in force! Thanks to the organization of all involved, we are moving babies through the baby bird room in good form. Not only are the older chicks doing well, we have also been quite successful in rearing some very young babies. Tom Whiteman recently treated the staff at an Operations meeting to a pictorial description of the development of a nest of black phoebes. These chicks arrived as tiny, featherless "nudies" and went out the door as healthy youngsters. Great job Rehab!

**Kudos** to Rehab and the "A" Team (formerly known as the Phone Team – see article)! There have been several occasions in the last month where individuals bringing in injured birds have been so favorably impressed by the response of the "A" team and rehab to the birds' needs that they have signed up as volunteers. This hard work and efforts of both the "A" team and Rehab are not lost on the public. Congratulations to all of you for not only giving great care to the birds but for being such great ambassadors for the Center and to the environment of Sonoma County!

Several baby raptors are currently housed in hack boxes (meant to simulate a nest and ease the youngsters' adjustment to independence) around the County. We are fortunate to have a dedicated group of hack site attendants who care for these birds and observe their progress as they leave the nest and move toward self-sufficiency. So far we have red-shouldered hawks, great horned and screech owls in place with red-tailed hawks and more owls to follow. When youngsters cannot be returned to a nest or other circumstances prevent leaving them with their parents, the hack box presents the next best alternative in helping to ensure the young raptors survival.

Christina Nelson has taken over the management of our web site. Both she and her husband Gregor (our field rescue coordinator) have their own web site design business so her professionalism and expertise will be a great asset to the Center. Look for innovations to come.

We will once again be participating in the Sonoma County Fair.

*...continued on page 2.*

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*Hospital hours for injured or orphaned wild native birds are 365 days a year. You are welcome to come see local hawks, falcons and owls used in education. Visiting hours are 1:00pm to 4:00pm on the first Saturday and the third Sunday of each month.*

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This year the Fair runs from July 17 to 30. If you would like to help staff our booth, please be sure to come to one of the two training sessions to learn what we will be doing for this year. Training dates are July 6 and 9 at 6pm. Barbara Clough has the sign-up board at the Center so please be sure to pick a time and day to come help. Not only is this great PR for the Center, it gives us a chance to let people know what we do, recruit new volunteers and educate them about the hazards which our native birds face in the modern world.

We will once again be presenting our Fall Raptor Lecture series this year. These lectures are required for anyone interested in becoming a raptor handler. If you, or anyone you know, would like to have the unique experience of working with our resident raptors, attending these talks is the first step. New material is presented each year so there is no end to what you can learn about these fascinating birds.

Our Junior volunteers are starting to return. Their time and commitment provide a valuable addition to the crew in the Rehab area. Training classes are being offered for new Junior volunteers so if you know of a youngster, ages 12-18, who you think would enjoy this experience, please let them know. The Junior volunteers have been an important part of our rehab success the last few years. Also, since school has ended, we hope that teachers will also join our ranks. If you are a teacher, or know teachers who might be interested, please attend an Orientation session and sign-up to be trained as a rehab volunteer. Interested Juniors should call the Center and leave a message for Kate Johnson, our Junior Volunteer Coordinator.

Initial contacts have been made with an individual to lead our fundraising efforts. Hopefully I will have good news to report in our next newsletter.

We are still searching for an Education Coordinator (sorry, no salary available). Diane Hichwa has filled this vital role for several years and is in need of a break! Please call the Center and leave a message for me if you think you might be interested or if you know of someone who might enjoy taking over this position.

Many, many thanks to all the staff and volunteers who perform such a vital role in helping to keep the Center, and the birds we help, thriving!

Please help us make this another successful baby bird season by volunteering at the Center. As always, please remember that The Bird Rescue Center needs YOU if we are to help the orphaned and injured birds of the County. Call now to volunteer your time and again, take a few minutes to send us a donation!

– Your Board President, Alida Morzenti

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### ***Announcing the Fall Raptor Lecture Series***

This series is presented by Alida Morzenti, and is a fascinating overview of our local raptors: identification, behavior, habitat, migration and more. The lectures are open to the public, and held at Hidden Valley School a short drive from the BRC. Dates are subject to final confirmation. All lectures start at 7 pm. October 12, October 19, October 26, November 2, November 9.

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***Bird Rescue is always available  
online at:  
[www.birdrescuecenter.org](http://www.birdrescuecenter.org)***

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Articles, pictures and information for The Bird Rescue Flyer are to be e-mailed to Pamela Kennemore at [kcorners1@comcast.net](mailto:kcorners1@comcast.net) or mailed to:

The Bird Rescue Center,  
P.O. Box 475, Santa Rosa, CA 95402  
Attn: Pamela Kennemore

### **Special thanks from BRC to...**

**Dr. David Rupiper and Dr. Ray Visco,**  
for their donations of supplies, as well as their  
time and their continuing veterinary care of  
our resident and rehab birds.

#### **Windsor Raley's Market**

Thomas Kitchen, produce manager and John  
Moore, store director for their continuing  
supply of fruits and vegetables each week.

#### **The Teddy Foundation**

for continuing significant donor support  
of the BRC's programs.

### **Spring Is Here And Baby Bird Season Has Arrived!**

This is the busiest time of  
the year at The Bird Rescue  
Center and our need for  
volunteers is great. There is a  
job for everyone ... to find out  
more come to one of our no  
obligation orientations.



All orientation meetings are at the Center. To  
participate call 523-BIRD (2473) today.

### **Beginners Bird Walk**

Saturday, July 21, 8:30 AM to Noon. Salmon  
Creek road. Meet at the corner of Bodega Highway  
and Salmon Creek Road, in the town of Bodega  
(not Bodega Bay). Informal carpools leave Santa  
Rosa at 8:00 AM. To participate, please arrive about  
ten minutes earlier to make arrangements. Santa  
Rosa meeting place: Sonoma County Agricultural  
Preservation and Open Space District office, 747  
Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa. The parking lot is  
behind the office (access from Carillo Street). Bring  
lunch, liquids and layers of clothing. Leaders: Tom  
Cashman, 433-2528 and Ken Wilson, 775-2558.

**Thanks to all who participated in the  
May 2007 Human Race –**  
your support and energy are much appreciated!

### **Seeking Education Coordinator**

We are seeking someone interested in  
education to lead and coordinate our education  
program. If you are interested, please contact  
Alida Morzenti by calling 523-2473. This is a non-  
salaried position.

### **Sonoma Mountain Journal**

**3-19-07** I check the nestboxes and one along the  
driveway has 2 1/2 inches of soft fill—likely either titmouse  
or chickadee. I'll watch and see. At dusk a bird rummages  
noisily inside the owl nestbox—probably a flicker rearranging  
the "furniture".

**3-20-07** This morning the great horned perches for  
a short time along the driveway, then vanishes. We see  
and hear a brown creeper so I show my visitors last year's  
nest: a few pine needles stick out on either side of a piece  
of thick pine bark. Nesting occurred behind that! We get  
nice views of varied thrush in the open, in the sun. Both  
towhees, spotted and California, scratch around in the dirt.  
Woodpeckers are out too as a Nuttall's calls, then drops into  
view and the hairy drums on a dead trunk beyond the pond  
(I think this is a frequent post for him).

**3-22-07** While sitting at the computer desk I hear  
(again!) a rustling, rumbling noise. I'm thinking: is it the  
equipment I'm using? A critter in the crawl space below? As  
I go out onto the front porch a Steller jay takes off—the clue  
I needed! Against the wire fence but inside a big spreading  
rambling rose is a nest. The jay must be building and every  
time she alights on the wire fence it jiggles the metal flashing  
and the sound reverberates inside the house. Mysterious  
noises solved.

**4-3-07** Red-shouldered hawks scream—? A red-tail

joins the calling. I see him fly off to the old nest, with a rat  
dangling in his foot. He lands but almost immediately the  
female arrives and knocks him off the food! She stands on  
it as he flies off. She stays on the nest and tears the food  
apart, eating it herself. This evening a western screech owl  
calls softly.

**4-4-07** The Hutton's vireo "sings" his monotonous call.  
At last the black-headed grosbeaks have returned and are  
singing---like a robin that goes on and on. As I walk with  
Millie to the path I can hear a swarm of bees. Did I disturb a  
ground nest when I mowed earlier? Is it time to swarm/move?  
We'll not stay to find out! I can see a dark mass swirling above  
the ceanothus. Millie and I retreat to the farther side of the  
house and yard. Here in the pond the juncos are bathing.  
A hermit thrush is still here, very delicate as I see his rusty  
tail disappear into the underbrush. From inside the house  
I train binoculars on the swarm. They look like bees, not  
wasps and not bumblebees. I hear a hum above the house;  
then they seem to have left. Cautiously I look up under the  
eaves and am relieved to see and hear nothing. Tonight 5  
bats clump above the door.

**4-5-07** On the big ceanothus bushes in the morning  
sun the bees seem to multiply. There are many many small  
bumblebees. Are these young ones or a different species'  
full size?

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**4-16-07** We return from Spring Break and the red-shoulders are still screaming very obviously around the neighborhood. They must not be on a nest—yet. One lands silhouetted on the branch and the other leaves. The red-tail eats a second meal on the nest platform. In Pengrove the night-herons are sitting tight on nests. Two trees have eggshells beneath them. At one tree we hear the clicking of youngsters; nothing visible yet. A single snowy egret sits on a nest; a few others mill around. Tonight in the bat cluster a silver band glints in my flashlight beam. A returnee.

**4-19-07** With company from Connecticut we spend more time outside: sitting with tea, sitting with coffee, sitting with wine. The black-headed grosbeaks put on quite a show, sitting in the tree tops, belting out a cheery sound as they sing on territories. A Wilson's warbler sings loud and clear, louder and ascending. One Pacific-slope flycatcher hangs out, giving variants on his 3-note song. Golden-crowned sparrows are still around but brighter striped caps indicate breeding season. Every time we walk under the butterfly bush a junco sentinel keeps watch, repeatedly clicking from the top of the tree. We walk around in search of spring wildflowers and find the last of the trillium and of the calypso orchids. We also stumble on a pile of turkey feathers-- and some leg bones! Unusual. Something has eaten the turkey and spent time with it, UNDER the shed. Might it have been hit by a car, then finished off by fox? or raccoon? Or someone else?

**4-20-07** Tonight a nice excursion to the movie "Miss Potter". What delightful drawings of "her friends": rabbit, duck, mouse, and others. And a lovely legacy to leave—books that inspired children for ages AND protected lands. At home the upper corner of the door frame has 8 bats keeping warm together. A bit later as I walk Millie the raccoons bolt off the

feeders and climb the central trunk; yellow eyes glint in the flashlight beam from high in the Madrone. One tree frog chirps intermittently, but loud and clear.

**4-24-07** The two red-shoulders wake up the neighborhood. Baby juncos are out and about but call and call for contact info. The titmice must have been the early nesters since several chatter above the feeders. As it gets dark both great horneds hoot from behind the house. I stalk the sound and locate one sitting on a large arching branch. He flies out—along the hill edge, over the roof and past the pond. The crows chart his route.

**4-26-07** Two deer visit the bird feeder, standing with front hooves on the bench to reach the feeder holes. They knock the tree-slab bench top off. The buck has 4 inches of thick velveted antlers; the doe is bulging, a mom-to-be? The climbing yellow roses spill over the fence and purplish wisteria hangs over the porch railing; deer strip the leaves from any extended tendrils. The jays are screaming and I assume they have an owl but it's a red-tail that flies from the front trees. Could anything be left of their nest of two years ago? The rattle of the Nuttall's woodpecker is typical to hear but today an acorn woodpecker rattles too—unusual in my "neck of the woods". A Steller jay sits on the nest tucked inside the rose bush while hummingbirds zip overhead between buddleia and salvia, all in bloom. Mom and sister Jan sit on the front porch, enjoying all the activity. Their evening's entertainment begins as bats drop out of the crevice above the wisteria. They're only 5 feet away; the first two drop early but 14 follow! Later one resting on the door has a band on the L wing—female—from before 2004.

**4-27-07** It's an early departure at 4:30 a.m. for the airport bus. The wildlife are more active than we are: a barn owl flies across the road ahead of us while beside us in the

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### **The Bird Rescue Center has two primary missions:**

***First: To rescue, rehabilitate and release orphaned, injured or ill native wild birds, and,...***

***Second: To educate the public regarding the ecological importance and natural history of these birds.***

### **Bird Rescue Wish List**

- Anatomically correct, plastic bird skeleton
- Plastic pet carriers (two piece, clamshell type), medium size (14 or 18 in. tall.)
- Ziplock freezer bags, gallon size
- Vet wrap (1" to 2" wide)
- Rolls of 1" x1/2" welded wire, 18" and 24" widths
- Movers (heavy duty cardboard boxes, 2'x2' or 3'x3'(new or slightly used)
- 2-ply toilet paper Kleenex (w/o lotion)
- Scissors (bandage, surgical and office)
- Manila folders w/attached fasteners
- Dust-free pine shavings, by the bale
- Viva brand paper towels
- Sunflower seeds, in the shell or chips
- Dawn dish soap
- Suet cake (insect and/or nut varieties)
- Bleach (no Clorox Ultra, it contains lye)
- Interior "walk off" door mats, 3'x4' or larger
- Telfa pads & gauze pads 4"x4" and 2"x 2"

# Bird Rescue goes to the...



Well, the 26th annual Sonoma County Human Race has come and gone in Santa Rosa with an estimated 8,000 people participating in the annual fund-raiser. Morgan Bartoo, Gates Kennemore, both Junior volunteers along with Carla Curle, Janeann Erickson, Pamela Kennemore, Barbara Jean Veronda, Kenneth and



Mari Wright, all participated in the 10K or 6.2 mile race for BRC. Gates was given a large collection of pledges that Cynthia Haley gave to her for \$355 that she had collected from around her office. The total pledges for BRC came to \$2267.19, \$200.00 more than last year.

We started at Slater Middle School going through Howarth Park and around Spring Lake before heading back to the school. We could not have asked for a better day. The weather was beautiful for the race and we enjoyed it. When we



first arrived at the school we went by the BRC booth before we started the race and were greeted by Martha Bentley, Roberta Chan and Tom Whiteman. After a brief chat we left to start the race. One of the highlights was when we were coming around Spring Lake and we heard the faint sound of music. As we rounded the lake we came upon a small chamber group playing on the edge of the lake in the shade. We enjoyed listening to the music as we continued on.

Once past the group we stopped at one of the many water stops along the way and were informed we were half way. After being cheered on we said thank you and were on our way again.



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## The "A" Team

I HATE talking in front of crowds! But one-on-one is not so scary.

In fact, it can be fun. Yes! Fun! The 'front lines' at the Bird Rescue Center can be fun.

We answer all kinds of questions at the front desk. We get to talk to the public face to face, and educate them about birds. (Do not worry. There is basic training provided.) We answer phone calls like: "A hummingbird just hit my window!", "I see a baby bird on the ground," "I want to volunteer.", "I am at a park, a baby duckling has fishing line around its foot", "I see a hawk with a broken wing", "My cat has a bird in its mouth", "There is a bird in my sky light, birds in my chimney, a bird in our warehouse!" "WHAT DO I DO?".

"A" Team to the rescue. We help to solve these problems. During the busier season, April – September, volunteers staff the front desk.



During this time, all kinds of birds are admitted and taken back to the Rehab. Some come in boxes, towels, and even on-the fist, as did a kestrel one time. You get a real personal gratification of helping to protect our bird species. October –March is less active for the birds, and calls are answered from home.

We have other responsibilities such as dispatching rescuers, taking messages for other coordinators, helping Rehab prepare receiving baskets and making baby bird nests. All this is done by volunteers. The phone team is a vital part of the center. We need staff all year round, and must have many volunteers

to give quick responses to the callers.

If you are interested, there is a two-hour class followed by on-the-job training at the Admissions desk. Contact The 'A' Team coordinator: Janet Bosshard, at the center 523-2473.

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*...continued from page 5.*

We walked about 30 minutes more and came into a neighborhood and again music came to our ears, and again it got louder and louder. When we turned the corner there was another band set up playing Blues music with a lot of gusto. It definitely was energizing and we picked up the pace to finish the race. As we walked past the band there was a retirement home with most of its occupants in their wheelchairs lining the street with small flags in their hands waving and smiling. This was probably one of the best highlights of the race. Inspired, we continued on.

Not more then 20 minutes more the school came into view. We were greeted like heros and given refreshments and praise. Somewhat tired we continued into the festivities and enjoyed yet another band playing Zydeco on a flatbed trailer setup in the middle of the school yard. Soon after we arrived and were refreshed it was time to finish up the event.

We caught the last shuttle to our parking lot and left feeling very good and looking forward to doing it again next year!

*-Pamela Kennemore*



## Special Benefactors

Bird Rescue gratefully acknowledges the following generous contributions which enable us to carry on our work:

### **Donations of \$50 or more**

Patti Adams  
Russell Cunningham  
Patricia Davis  
Susan Beth Dixon  
Donald Dreuzberger  
J. Spence Haitt  
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Bob Comstock  
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Sasha Haverty

Jonnie Perrot  
Carol & Jack Trimmingham  
Warren Watkins

## ***The Fair Is Coming, The Fair Is Coming!***

The 2007 Sonoma County Fair date is set for July 17 - July 30. Time to start making plans and arrainging schedules to sign-up to volunteer. Fair Orientations will be given on July 6th and July 9th at 6pm. You will need to attend one of them to get information regarding the inner working of the booth and to learn any changes or additons since last year. For more informaiton call Barb at 433-4833

*...continued from page 4.*

ditch a gray fox slips into the culvert. Only 40 feet further we spot a second fox. I return up the hill at 5 a.m. finding a barn owl sitting on the fence at the park and a great horned sitting on the wire further up the road. I know red-taileds, red-shouldered and great horned owls are all in the neighborhood but no nest has been located this Spring. It's becoming light and high in the pines I hear the "brr rup" of a western tanager and the chatter of a northern oriole--a flash of orange and black in the sun gives his location away.

Five jays are very agitated and noisy, actively pursuing around and through the trees. Finally a Cooper's hawk is teased into giving chase but to no avail. Two of the jays return to be nest lookouts; this nest is only 4 feet off the ground—unusually low for a Steller jay—but the thorns and density of this sprawling rose is great cover. Three beaks stick straight up from the nest cup.

**5-10-07** The three large jay chicks are developing crests! The Madrone tree has house finch fledglings calling from all sides. Mouths open as a parent passes and little wispy feather tufts still stick up on their heads.

**5-11-07** A Jerusalem cricket head on the doorstep means a pallid bat is back and hunting the yard. At 10:20 p.m. he's hanging on the left corner of the door itself; this is the first bat I have seen ON the door (not the frame) since workmen replaced the door this winter.

**5-14-07** My first Western wood peewee of the season gives his descending "peeeer"; it's counter-balanced by a Wilson's warbler whose song rises slightly as he calls louder and louder. The babies are out: a young Steller jay

is on the edge of the water bath and plunges into the bushy flowers as Millie and I approach. Three chickadees chase "Pop" in a "Follow the Leader" game; he has the prize of food to be shoved into the fastest mouth. Newly fledged house finches are still calling on all sides of the Madrone. At ground level softly streaked juvenile juncos play life's game of tag—tagging the feeding parents. In the woods delicate bright blue damselflies land in the sun; at the pond a red dragonfly lands on emergent vegetation.

**5-5-07** Early a.m. the red-shouldered sounds off: in the front trees, in the tall trees over the gate, over the pond as a feather drops—he's everywhere. Quail run in pairs under the western spicebush with its wine-red flowers and distinctive aroma. As I pull undesirable weeds one pale brown tree frog gives up his cover and leaps out of the tall grass. These nights are warm so the bats feed early, then 16 rest on the upper door frame.

**5-22-07** At the Penngrove end of the mountain we're counting herons and egrets; since they're night-herons we try a late observation and we do see them flying out to feed but it's gotten too dark to see into the nests and count chicks to indicate success of nesting.

**5-23-07** An early morning follow-up is much more fruitful: we find 3 chicks in a nest that showed only one last night. Their nesting is more than ½ done but we find new nests, some with switched species, and some nests that were active have totally vanished. It makes you wonder—has that one moved to a new spot? Have predators taken their toll? As a research study we can only record what we see, not what we guess or imagine.

– Diane Hichwa



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To: **BIRD RESCUE CENTER**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Students & Senior Citizens .....\$20.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor..... \$500.00       |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor ..... \$1,000.00 |

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check for \_\_\_\_\_

*Bird Rescue Center is a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization.  
Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law (Tax I.D. #94-2378213).*