

## **President's message:**

We held another successful Central Valley Birding Symposium and the symposium committee is already working on the 21<sup>st</sup> annual. Please plan to join us for the Club's signature event November 16-19, 2017. After a wonderful 20 years, some of the Symposium stalwarts have stepped back from their leadership roles, but are still involved with the Club and the event. For their efforts that got the Club and the Symposium off the ground, we honored David Yee, Frances Oliver, Joanne Katanic and Kurt Mize with Club Service Awards.

Editor Dan Airola and his team continue to do a great job on the Bulletin, which is on schedule and has a steadier stream of articles in the pipeline than at any time in recent years. The Bulletin is also formalizing its peer review process to improve the scientific weight of articles that may have conservation, legal, or scientific implications. As always, the Bulletin staff need the continued support of the membership. They are ready to work with first-time authors, so please contact us with topics you are interested in exploring.

Through the generous contributions of Club members and sponsors, and in partnership with Sierra Foothills Audubon, six young birders received scholarships to attend birding camps in 2016 and three of them were also able to join us at the Symposium. We also offered four field trips to the membership in 2016 (we expect an increase in 2017), announced through Mail Chimp, the CV Birds listserv and the Club's Facebook page.

In 2016, the Club continued its support for Tricolored Blackbird conservation and population monitoring and is certain to be directly involved with the upcoming 2017 statewide survey. We are always looking for contributions and ideas from the membership, so please consider contributing to the Bulletin, suggesting a field trip idea and helping to organize one, or contacting me with your ideas, suggestions and questions.

Chris Conard  
CVBC President

## ***Thank You To Our Supporters***

The Board of Directors of the Central Valley Birding Club and the Central Valley Birding Symposium Steering Committee thank the following individuals, Audubon Chapters, and companies who gave to the CVBC's Bulletin and scholarship programs and supported the CV Bird Symposium during 2016. The generosity of these members contributed importantly to the quality of our programs.

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