



Western Regional News

Report from the President (Acting)

Highlights of the Annual Meeting at Davis, California

Approximately 70 people attended our annual meeting from 14-17 September 2022 at the lovely Putah Creek Lodge, set amidst riparian vegetation on the University of California at Davis campus. While the previous several days had seen innervating temperatures well above 38 (100), and at times as high as 47 (117) (with the added enjoyment of a large fire to the northeast), the weather gods smiled on us, and the high temperatures during the meeting was only in the lower 80s (upper 20s C), and a wind that kept the smoke relatively at bay. We were treated to more than 30 talks and workshops, the abstracts for these will appear in the upcoming issue of NABB. A silent auction featured bird carvings, more than 100 books, and bird art. All the participants at the meeting received a fine art print celebrating an iconic Central Valley bird, the Yellow-billed Magpie (see figure), and enjoyed field trips to nearby refuges. Our heartfelt thanks to Dr. Andrew Engilis, Curator of the Museum of Wildlife and Fish at U.C. Davis, and Steve Albert of The Institute for Bird Populations (IBP) for bird-dogging an assemblage of insightful talks, and to many others that helped out, especially Jayde Blair, Irene Engilis, Holly Garrod, Chrissy Kondrat, Danielle Kaschube, Mike Krzywicki, Katherine Larson, Tania Romero, Lisa Tell, Jon Tenberge, Ben Vernasco, and Colin Woolley.



New WBBA President

The annual meeting also featured the election of **Danielle Kaschube** of IBP as our new and energetic President. The Board and members join in wishing her welcome to her new role, and look forward to many more productive years as we steam towards our 100th anniversary in 2027!

Peter Pyle's New Book.

The annual meeting included an entertaining talk from Peter Pyle on his highly anticipated upcoming publication of new edition of *Identification Guide to North American Birds, Part 1*, that is scheduled to be available in November 2022. It was exciting to see the progress of what will certainly be a landmark publication for banders with many useful innovations, including: the new WRP (Wolfe, Ryder, Pyle) age codes; 21 new species; measurements in tables for easy reference; and many spectacular new figures illustrating what he terms "molt clines" for ageing.