

BIRDING Final Trip Report – Birding to the top of Mtn. Hamilton – June 14, 2014 Plus a visit to the Lick Observatory - Trip Leader – Lisa Myers





Quick Overview – The historic Lick Observatory is located on top of San Jose's Mtn. Hamilton and this day was all about birding our way there. Rolling hills and oak woodlands make up this entire area with our first stop along the Washburn Trail. A family of newly fledged Black Headed Grosbeak seemed to play overhead while a distant Lazuli Bunting sang. Other stops included trails at Twin Gates, the Smith Creek Fire Station & Kincaid Rd. At the 4,000 foot summit we enjoyed the views of the entire Bay Area, explored the observatory, & learned the importance of the "Valet" button located in the glove-box of high-end luxury vehicles! Afterward we headed back down with a final stop at Joseph Grant Ranch Cty. Park ending our day with nesting flickers, Pacific Slope Flycatchers, Barn Swallows & Lawrence's Goldfinch.









Pictures from our day – Standing on the Washburn Trail looking up to the top of Mtn. Hamilton / The Lick Observatory Cookies for all in honor of Flag Day 2014 / A view back down to San Francisco Bay all taken by Lisa Myers / Western Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly & Western Kingbird at Joseph Grant County Park – Douglas Joo / The very important Valet button inside the glove compartment!



Birds Experienced -Wild Turkey California Quail **Double-crested Cormorant** Great Blue Heron **Turkey Vulture** Red-tail Hawk California Gull Rock Pigeon Mourning Dove Band Tailed Pigeon Anna's Hummingbird Nuttall's Woodpecker Northern Flicker Acorn Woodpecker American Kestrel Black Phoebe Western Kingbird Olive Side Flycatcher Western Wood Pewee (h) Pacific Slope Flycatcher Ash Throated Flycatcher Cassin's Vireo (h) Warbling Vireo Western Scrub-Jay Steller's Jay Yellow-billed Magpie American Crow Common Raven Northern Rough Wing Violet Green Swallow Cliff Swallow Barn Swallow Oak Titmouse Chestnut Backed Chick... White Breasted Nuthatch Bewick's Wren House Wren Western Bluebird American Robin **European Starling** Wrentit Northern Mockingbird Wilson's Warbler (h) Black Throated Gray Warbler Spotted Towhee California Towhee Song Sparrow Dark-eyed Junco Black-Headed Grosbeak Lazuli Bunting Red-winged Blackbird **Brown-headed Cowbird** Bullock's Oriole Purple Finch (h) House Finch Lesser Goldfinch Lawrence's Goldfinch

Heard Only = (h)