Honor Roll

California Waterfowl’s Life Members as of July 1, 2020

Life membership in California Waterfowl represents a high level of commitment to the organization’s mission: to grow California’s waterfowl populations, wetlands and hunter-conservationist communities.

The support of our Life Members is more vital than ever as we navigate a world and economy ravaged by COVID-19. We are humbled that Life Members have deemed this organization worthy of their support in the first place, and we continue to strive to meet their expectations of us.

This year’s Honor Roll listing reflects a series of changes that went into effect at California Waterfowl this spring:
1) We expanded our Major Donor Program, so the three highest levels of Life Membership – Life Donor, Life Sponsor and Life Benefactor – are now classified as Major Donors.
2) Life Donors, Life Sponsors and Life Benefactors will be listed in the new simplified Honor Roll as Life Members, and they will be recognized as Major Donors for their exceptional level of commitment to California Waterfowl. The Major Donor list is published in the Annual Report and online.

This listing also includes Heritage Sprig, a higher level of youth membership that was previously discontinued in favor of Life Membership – a permanent status that does not end at age 18.

For information about our membership levels, please go to calwaterfowl.org/join.

† denotes major donor (calwaterfowl.org/major-donors)  ◊ denotes Pintail Legacy Society member (calwaterfowl.org/donate/legacy-society)  * denotes deceased

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A. Gary Anderson Family
Foundation‡
Larry Abernethy
Shields Abernethy, MD
Dave Acey‡
Vince W. Acer,"Bruce Adams
Douglas G. Adams‡
Douglas L. Adams‡
Herbert E. Adams‡
Betty Adamson‡†
Harry C. Adamson‡◊
Merritt H. Adamson‡
Harry C. Adamson*‡
Herbert E. Adams*
Douglas L. Adams‡
Vince W. Acero
Dave Aced‡
Shields Abernathy, MD
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FALL 2020
Stephen J. Hinze remembers a Salton Sea that was vibrant from shore to shore with sport-fishing fleets and world-class duck hunting.

“The hunting was excellent in the 1950s and ’60s,” said Hinze of Borrego Springs. “Pintail, teal, gadwall and snow geese were abundant.”

It’s where his father and uncle taught him to hunt. He started out as the retriever and earned the use of a single-shot 16-gauge Remington. “We would launch there at Red Hill Marina and hunt the lake for sea ducks, cans, scoters, whistling ducks. It was a real hub for sportsmen in the area.”

Things aren’t like they used to be on California’s largest lake. Less and less water is making it to the terminal lake. The demands of agriculture and area cities are winning out. Salinity is through the roof, about two times higher than the Pacific, and the lake’s shoreline is receding 30 feet each year.

But there’s hope. That’s one of the reasons Hinze says he’s a life member and longtime supporter of California Waterfowl. It’s the best option to preserve current wetlands and perhaps even restore them in Southern California, he said.

Hinze has been in constant contact with staff at California Waterfowl, always making sure we don’t forget Salton Sea and help hunters in Southern California defend and restore their hunting locations. CWA recently has completed several projects at Imperial Wildlife Area. Most recently CWA restored 430 acres that will be added to the Imperial Wildlife Area Wister Unit’s hunt program this fall.

“Just finding a place that holds birds and is legal to hunt in California is a monumental task nowadays,” said Hinze. “When you find your place, it’s beautiful and you want to fight for it.”